



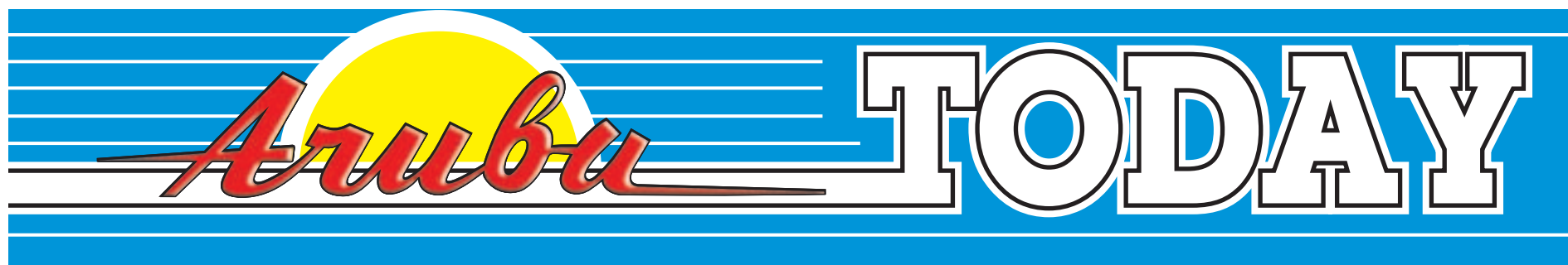
## IN IRAQ, AL-MALIKI SIGNALS HIS INTENT TO STAY IN POWER

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On Top Of The News Email:news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel:+297 582-7800 Saturday, July 5, 2014



# ONE NATION

Air Force Maj. Derek Tate of Alexandria, Va., center, carries his son Reid, 2, on his shoulders as his wife Sue stands at right, while President Barack Obama and first lady Michelle Obama greet military families as they host an Independence Day celebration on the South Lawn at the White House in Washington, Friday, July 4, 2014. (AP Photo/Charles Dharapak)

**On Independence Day;**

## Obama Celebrates Ethnic Diversity of America

**DARLENE SUPERVILLE**  
**Associated Press**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Celebrating the ethnic diversity of America, President Barack Obama said more than two dozen foreign-born military members who

became U.S. citizens at the White House on the Fourth of July are vivid reminders that welcoming immigrants "is central to our way of life." He pleaded anew for new immigration policies, say-

ing the vast range of backgrounds and experiences that has made America a melting pot for more than 200 years also makes the country stronger. He argued that the system must be changed for the U.S. to

remain the greatest nation on earth. "The basic idea of welcoming immigrants to our shores is central to our way of life, it is in our DNA," Obama said after the 25 service members representing 15 coun-

tries raised their right hands and pledged allegiance to the United States. "From all these different strands, we make something new here in America.

**Continued on Page 4**



# France steps up security on US-bound flights



**Soldiers patrol through a terminal at Paris Charles de Gaulle airport in Roissy, France, Friday, July 4, 2014. The French civil aviation authority on Friday announced stepped-up security measures "for the summer period." The agency said the measures might cause delays on U.S.-bound flights. French government officials would not elaborate Friday on the measures, citing the need for discretion in security matters.**

**PARIS (AP)** — France is increasing security on flights headed for the United States this summer amid U.S. concerns that al-Qaida is trying to develop a new kind of bomb. The Obama administration this week called for

tighter security measures at foreign airports that have direct flights to the U.S., prompting British airports to increase security Thursday. The French civil aviation authority on Friday announced stepped-up security measures "for

(AP Photo/Michel Euler) the summer period." The agency said the measures might cause delays on U.S.-bound flights. French government officials would not elaborate on the measures, citing the need for discretion in security matters.

One fear is that extremists with a U.S. or other Western passport could carry the new bomb onto a plane undetected by airport security.

At Paris' Charles de Gaulle airport, U.S.-bound flights saw delays of 30 minutes to an hour Friday. Sophie le Poulennec, a 26-year-old heading to Chicago, said she hoped there weren't any new luggage restrictions as a result. "I got no information today about this," she said at the airport. A U.S. counterterrorism official said this week that American intelligence has picked up indications that bomb makers from Yemen-based al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula have traveled to Syria to link up with the al-Qaida affiliate there, known as the Nusra Front. Olivier de France, a European security expert at France's Institute for International and Strategic Relations, said expertise already exists to put explosive devices "in anything from shoes, soles, to energy drinks and even possibly surgically implanting these devices." □

## LATIN BRIEFS

### Big Venezuelan newspaper sold under pressure

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — One of Venezuela's most prestigious newspapers has been sold at a moment of increasing pressure on the country's independent press. Details of the sale of Caracas-based El Universal to a group of Spanish investors were still emerging Friday. Editor in Chief Elides Rojas confirms the sale and tells the Associated Press that Jesus Abreu will assume leadership of the paper. Abreu is best known as the brother of the director of Venezuela's government-funded system of youth orchestras. During an early morning radio interview, Rojas acknowledged there is apprehension in the newsroom about whether the paper will follow in the steps of other recently sold news media outlets that have softened their editorial line. He said he was hopeful that the paper would maintain its editorial standards. □

# Clashes break out during Palestinian funeral

**YOUSUR ALHLOU**  
**Associated Press**

**JERUSALEM (AP)** — Israeli police clashed with rock-throwing Palestinian protesters in Jerusalem on Friday as thousands mourned at the funeral for an Arab teen who Palestinians say was killed by Israeli extremists in a revenge attack. Palestinian militants, meanwhile, fired rockets and mortars from the Gaza Strip into Israel, and the Jewish state later carried out several airstrikes on what it described as " Hamas terror targets" in Gaza. There were no immediate reports of casualties.

Also, the Israeli military said its troops opened fire after spotting two Palestinians planting explosives near the Gaza border fence. An ambulance carried the body of 16-year-old Mohammed Abu Khdeir,

wrapped in a Palestinian flag and traditional headscarf, to a mosque in the east Jerusalem neighborhood where he lived. Then

mourners carried the open casket through the crowd to a cemetery. During the procession, scores of masked Palestin-

ians threw rocks at Israeli police on duty nearby, and they responded with stun grenades, spokesman Micky Rosenfeld said. □



**Palestinians throw rocks as they clash with Israeli security forces during the funeral of 16-year-old Mohammed Abu Khdeir in Jerusalem on Friday, July 4, 2014. Israeli police clashed with Palestinian protesters in Jerusalem on Friday as thousands of people converged on a cemetery for the burial of an Arab teenager, who Palestinians say was killed by Israeli extremists in a suspected revenge attack.**

(AP Photo/Mahmoud Illean)

### Convicted killer Joran v/d Sloot is officially wed

LIMA, Peru (AP) — It's wedding day in Peru for convicted murderer Joran van der Sloot. The 26-year-old Dutchman who remains the chief suspect in the 2005 disappearance of U.S. teen Natalee Holloway was tying the knot in prison a Friday with a Peruvian woman pregnant with his child. Van der Sloot's lawyer says prison officials prohibited video and photos during the midday nuptials and that none of the groom's relatives are expected. Lawyer Maximo Altez says Van der Sloot's mother did send a tailored suit and dress shoes fitting his extra-large feet. Van der Sloot was sentenced to 28 years in prison two years ago for the 2010 murder of a Lima woman he met in casino. □



# US coast survives Hurricane Arthur

EMERY P. DALESIO

Associated Press

**KILL DEVIL HILLS, North Carolina (AP)** — Proving far less damaging than feared, Hurricane Arthur left tens of thousands of people without power Friday in a swipe at North Carolina's dangerously exposed Outer Banks, then brought lousy Fourth of July beach weather to the Northeast as it veered out to sea. The weather along the narrow barrier islands — whose beaches draw hundreds of thousands of tourists every summer — had already cleared by Friday afternoon as Arthur scooted north and its outer bands scraped the Delaware and New Jersey shores. Forecasters predicted the storm would weaken before its center moves over western Nova Scotia in Canada early Saturday. While state and local officials worked to restore access to Hatteras Island and help those who had suffered storm and flooding damage, the effects of the hurricane were mostly confined to that part of the state. Farther south, the beaches were once again

packed with people soaking up the sun. Arthur struck North Carolina as a Category 2 storm with winds of 100 mph (160 kph) late Thursday, taking about five hours to move across the far eastern part of the state. About 40,000 people lost power, and the rush of water from the ocean on one side and the sound on the other side buckled part of North Carolina Highway 12 in a spot on Hatteras Island that was breached in Hurricane Irene in 2011. Dozens of workers were heading to fix the highway, and the Department of Transportation said it was confident the road would reopen Saturday as long as an underwater sonar test of a key bridge showed no problems. No injuries or deaths were reported. After praising emergency officials and saying the state dodged a bullet, Gov. McCrory noted that all of North Carolina's beaches were open outside of the Outer Banks and encouraged residents and visitors to enjoy the holiday. He was heading to the beach himself for an Inde-



Bathers crowd the beach in Atlantic Beach, N.C., following Hurricane Arthur on Friday, July 4, 2014. After looking quite threatening the day before, Morehead City, Atlantic Beach and Beaufort only sustained minimal damage from Hurricane Arthur, and many were ready to enjoy the holiday weekend as the weather cleared rapidly Friday.

(AP Photo/The News and Observer, Chris Seward)

pendence Day parade in Southport, a welcome surprise when he expected to be stuck in Raleigh monitor-

ing the storm all day. "The North Carolina beaches are open for business and they're open for

tourists," McCrory said. "The umbrellas are going up as we speak right now." □

## Christie's veto of gun control bill angers Newtown families

KATE ZERNIKE

© 2014 New York Times

Families of children killed in the massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary School lashed out at Gov. Chris Christie of New Jersey this week for vetoing a gun control bill that would have banned the sales of ammunition magazines larger than 10 rounds, after he dismissed it as a "trivial approach" to gun violence and "the embodiment of reform in name only." The families said they were departing from their "moderate polite approach" — since the shootings in December 2012, they have met with politicians privately and eschewed what they call "naming and shaming" — because,

they said in a statement, "Gov. Christie has crossed the line." Family members from the group Sandy Hook Promise had traveled from Connecticut to Christie's office this week to deliver a petition with 55,000 signatures asking him to sign the bill. They had been seeking a meeting with him since May 22, they said, and tried to see him again, but were told he was not available. About an hour after they left the State House, Christie announced that he was sending the bill back to the Legislature, having taken out the magazine limit. He accused proponents of "grandstanding" and "empty rhetoric." □

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# Obama celebrates ethnic diversity of America

Continued from front

And that's why, if we want to keep attracting the best and brightest from beyond our borders, we're going to have to fix our immigration system, which is broken," he said.

Deputy Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas, a Cuban who became a naturalized citizen in 1973, administered the oath of allegiance.

The immigration issue is earning renewed attention because of the influx to the U.S. of tens of thousands of unaccompanied children from Central America. Under U.S. law, they must be returned to their home countries, angering immigration advocates who already take issue with Obama's enforcement of deportations. They want Obama to allow the children to stay.

At the same time, Obama blames House Republicans for delaying action on legislation covering the millions already living in the U.S. illegally. A com-

prehensive measure the Senate passed last summer has been blocked by House leaders who also

liever this week that, as a result of inaction on Capitol Hill, he will pursue non-legislative ways he can ad-

Democratic candidates, but plans not to visit the border.

"I'm going to keep doing

some of the immigrants who have flooded the Texas border with Mexico.

Earlier this week a crowd of protesters blocked buses carrying women and children migrants who were flown in from overwhelmed Texas facilities. The Border Patrol had to take the migrants elsewhere.

Later Friday, Obama and his wife, Michelle, welcomed hundreds of military members and their families, including the new citizens, to a barbecue on the South Lawn that was sponsored by the USO, a nonprofit organization that provides services and entertainment to U.S. troops and their families. The event featured a concert by the rapper Pitbull, along with prime seating for the fireworks on the National Mall.

Obama said that since the nation's founding 238 years ago the U.S. has become the "greatest democratic, economic and military force the world has ever known" and a beacon for others looking on from beyond its borders.

The president explained that he had other reasons to celebrate on Friday.

"This is always a special day for us because this is Malia's birthday," he told guests. His oldest child turned 16. □



From left, Sherry Roseann Ball, Diana Baker, Richard Asomah, Ganesh Arjun, and chef Jose Andres listen to the Marine Band play the national anthem during a naturalization ceremony for active duty service members and civilians, Friday, July 4, 2014, in the East Room of the White House in Washington. Andres is being awarded as an "Outstanding American by Choice," an initiative that recognizes the outstanding achievements of naturalized U.S. citizens who have demonstrated their commitment to our country.

(AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

have done little to advance their own immigration proposals.

Obama announced ear-

ly just U.S. immigration policy on his own. He scheduled a trip to Texas next week, mostly to raise money for

everything I can to keep making our immigration system smarter and more efficient," Obama said Friday. Across the country, more than 100 demonstrators, most of whom support immigrants, gathered again Friday outside a U.S. Border Patrol station in Murrieta, California, where the agency intends to process

## Fleet of F-35 jets grounded by Defense Department after fire

ANDREW SIDDONS

HELENE COOPER

© 2014 New York Times

**WASHINGTON** - The Defense Department has grounded its fleet of F-35 fighter jets after an incident in which one of them caught fire as it was preparing to take off at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida, the Pentagon said.

The grounding is the latest in a long string of delays that has plagued the Air Force's newest, and most advanced,

fighter aircraft, and comes just days before the plane was to make its international debut at an air show in Britain.

The root cause of the problem at Eglin two weeks ago remains under investigation, the Pentagon's press secretary, Rear Adm. John F. Kirby, said in a statement Thursday.

"Additional inspections of F-35 engines have been ordered, and return to flight will be determined based on inspection results and analysis of engineering data," he said.

The Pentagon was seeking to determine if the Eglin fire was an isolated incident or whether it signaled a wider problem in the F-35 fleet, which is spread across the Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps. □

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## Catholic Priest convicted of killing nun dies in prison

KANTELE FRANKO

JOHN SEEWER

Associated Press

**COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)** — A Catholic priest convicted of killing a nun inside a chapel a day before Easter 1980 died Friday at a Columbus prison hospice unit, a day after a federal judge refused his request to be released to family care so he could die in his hometown of Toledo.

Attorney Richard Kerger said the Rev. Gerald Robinson's sister-in-law told him the priest died Friday morning. He was 76.

Robinson had been serving a sentence of 15 years to life. He was arrested 24 years after the nun's death and was found guilty in 2006 of stabbing and strangling Sister Margaret Ann Pahl at a Toledo hospital where they both worked. Church historians have said it's the only documented case of a Catholic priest killing a nun.

Robinson and Pahl had worked closely together at the hospital where he was a chaplain and she was caretaker of the chapel. He presided at the funeral Mass for her.

The 71-year-old nun was killed while she was preparing the chapel for Easter services in 1980. She was choked and then stabbed 31 times.

Robinson emerged as a suspect when police found a sword-shaped letter opener in his desk drawer two weeks after the killing. He also admitted lying to police, making up a story that someone else confessed to the murder. Yet he was not charged and remained a priest. A year after the killing, he was transferred out of the hospital.

Robinson developed a



In this Thursday, May 11, 2006 photo, in Toledo, Ohio, the Rev. Gerald Robinson, a Roman Catholic priest, listens as the verdict is read finding him guilty of killing Sister Margaret Ann Pahl. A federal court denied a request from Robinson to spend his final days in his Ohio hometown. Robinson died Friday at a Columbus prison hospice unit.

(AP Photo/Andy Morrison)

faithful following in his hometown of Toledo, where he delivered sermons and heard confessions in Polish. He ministered to the sick and dying at nursing homes and hospitals after retiring from three Roman Catholic parishes.

Police arrested him in 2004 after investigators reopened the murder case when a letter surfaced that accused Robinson and other priests of molestation. Police weren't able to substantiate the allegations of sexual abuse, but it led them back to the nun's murder.

Investigators said blood stains on an altar cloth seemed to match the patterns of the letter opener found in Robinson's apartment. New technology not available in 1980 allowed them to connect the killing with the letter opener.

Prosecutors said Robinson tried to humiliate Pahl in her death, her stab wounds formed an upside down cross and a smudge of blood on her forehead meant as a mock anointing.

They blamed the murder on Robinson's simmering anger over Pahl's domineering ways, saying their relationship was strained and that Pahl was upset over the shortening of Good Friday services a day before she was killed.

Robinson, who wore his priest's collar throughout his trial, maintained his innocence while losing several attempts to overturn his conviction.

His attorneys said DNA evidence didn't link Robinson to the crime.

A new defense team argued that a now-deceased serial killer could have been the one who stabbed and strangled Pahl. Prosecutors dismissed the theory, saying investigators and even the priest's original attorneys didn't think there was a connection.

Robinson remained a priest after he was convicted, but he was barred from ministry. He told The Columbus Dispatch in an interview three years after the trial that he was stunned by testimony linking him to the murder. □

## Republican will challenge election result

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The tea party-backed Republican who lost a primary runoff election to Mississippi Sen. Thad Cochran said Friday he plans to challenge the results. The long-serving Cochran relied on Democrats and independent voters in his narrow win over Chris McDaniel. That prompted extra scrutiny from his McDaniel's supporters. McDaniel said his campaign found at least 5,000 irregularities in voting and that he will mount a legal challenge "any day now." In an interview with CNN, McDaniel said what

matters is that fraud be uncovered where it exists and that many Mississippi residents "are very angry" because they think their votes in the June 24 primary were nullified by fraud.

Most of what McDaniel is describing as irregularities involved people who apparently voted in both the June 3 Democratic primary and the Republican runoff. Mississippi does not register voters by party, but state law bans a person from voting in one party's primary and another party's runoff in the same cycle.

McDaniel said he's pressing

the challenge because, "it's our responsibility ... if the corruption is out there, to end it once and for all." He did say that if the courts side against him, he would accept the outcome. But he would not say whether he would ultimately endorse Cochran for Senate in the general election.

Asked if he had any regrets about the divisive primary campaign and aftermath, McDaniel said he regretted the last two and a half weeks of the campaign when "they called me a racist, they race-baited." He said Cochran's cam-

paign engaged in "scare" tactics by saying that if McDaniel were to become the next senator, "welfare would be cut off."

An election challenge will be filed with the state Republican Party executive committee, as required by law. If the committee rejects a request for a new election, McDaniel could file an appeal with a state circuit court in a county where the campaign believes it has found voting irregularities, said state Sen. Michael Watson, an attorney who is working with the McDaniel campaign. □



# Immigrants hitting a human wall in California town

JENNIFER MEDINA

© 2014 New York Times

**MURRIETA, Calif.** - Suddenly, this city in the desert has become the place that turned away the immigrants.

When the three busloads of immigrant mothers and children rolled into town for processing at a Border Patrol station this week, they were met by protesters carrying American flags and signs proclaiming "return to sender" as they screamed "go home" and chanted "USA!" Fearing for the safety of the migrants and federal officers, immigration officials decided to reroute the buses to San Diego, an hour south.

And a day after many here celebrated what they saw as a temporary victory, more than a thousand residents packed a high school auditorium Wednesday night for a town-hall-style meeting that lasted more than four hours, voicing fears about an influx of migrants.

"What happens when they come here with diseases and can overrun our



Demonstrators argue about immigration outside a town hall meeting in Murrieta, Calif., July 2, 2014. Many residents here say they have been stunned by their neighbors' reactions in an ongoing dispute over the busing of immigrants for processing to a local Border Patrol facility.

(Monica Almeida/The New York Times)

schools? How much is this costing us?" one resident, Jodie Howard, asked the mayor.

"How do you know they are really families and aren't some kind of gang or drug cartel?" another person asked federal officials.

After a Border Patrol official explained that more buses would probably arrive in Murrieta in the coming weeks as part of an attempt to relieve processing centers near the Texas border, one man took to the microphone and de-

manded to know: "Why do we have to put them on a bus to Murrieta? Why can't we just transport them on a bus to Tijuana?"

The crowd responded with thunderous applause.

As federal officials have begun to send the ex-

pected 240,000 migrants and 52,000 unaccompanied minors who have crossed the border illegally in recent months in the Rio Grande Valley to cities around the county, Murrieta so far is the only place that has managed to turn them away.

The reactions have been mixed: Officials in Dallas have said they will welcome thousands of migrant children and have helped to coordinate donations from residents, but residents of Artesia, New Mexico, expressed frustration at a meeting this week that immigrants were being placed at a temporary detention center there. They stopped short, however, of blocking the buses. Nowhere have the Central American immigrants been met with such tremendous anger as they have here, in this middle-class conservative community about 90 miles southeast of Los Angeles.

Continued on page 27



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## At 116, US woman named oldest American

JILL BLEED

Associated Press

**LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas (AP)**

— A woman in Arkansas celebrated her 116th birthday Friday with cake, a party and a new title — she's now officially the oldest confirmed living American and second-oldest person in the world, the Gerontology Research Group said. Gertrude Weaver spent her birthday at home at the Silver Oaks Health and Rehabilitation in Camden, southwest of Little Rock. This year's festivities included the new award

from the Gerontology Research Group, which analyzed U.S. Census records to determine that Weaver is the oldest living American, rather than 115-year-old Jeralean Talley, who was born in 1899.

The research group, which consults with the Guinness Book of World Records, found that the 1900 Census listed Weaver as 2 years old — putting her birthday in 1898, said Robert Young, the research's group database administrator and senior consultant for Guinness.

That makes Weaver the second-oldest person in the world behind 116-year-old Misao Okawa of Japan and the 11th oldest person of all time, he said.

"Normally, 116 would be old enough to be the world's oldest person," Young said. "There's kind of heavy competition at the moment."

Weaver was born in southwest Arkansas near the border with Texas, and was married in 1915. She and her husband had four children, all of whom have died except for a 93-year-old son. Along with Census records, the Gerontology Research Group used Weaver's 1915 marriage certificate, which listed her age as 17, to confirm her birth year, Young said.

Although no birth record exists for Weaver, she celebrates her birthday each year on July 4 and did the same this year.

Palm Beach #45 in front of subway



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# Cleveland takes bipartisan tack to wooing conventions

TRIP GABRIEL

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**CLEVELAND** - Attention, Internet wits: Cleveland has heard all your jokes - about "the mistake by the lake," about its sports teams failing year after year, about its river so polluted that it once caught fire - and it wants you to know that is tired, worn-out stuff.

Representatives of the Republican National Committee returned here for a third visit this week, after naming Cleveland and Dallas the two finalists. Democrats last week narrowed their field to Cleveland; Columbus, Ohio; New York; Philadelphia; Phoenix; and Birmingham, Alabama.

No one has any illusions

tee is wooing Republicans by arguing that a voter swing of just 15 percent in Cuyahoga County in 2012 "would have turned Ohio red."

(In the spirit of bipartisanship, the same committee told Democrats, quoting a local official, that Cuyahoga County "delivered the second-largest

mittee to raise money to pay for the event, the number of hotel rooms and the calendar.

Republicans want to avoid the mistake of 2012 when they waited until August, depriving Romney of general-election funds to counter a summer of Democratic attacks. Cleveland promises it could hold a convention in June, and Dallas in July.

"Either date would be a step in the right direction," Mahoney said.

The Republicans promise a final decision next month. If they select Cleveland, the Democrats, who are not planning to choose until later, will strike the city off their list.

Jim Swift, a native of Shaker Heights, a Cleveland

suburb, who worked on logistics at previous conventions, threw cold water on boosters' hopes in a column in The Plain Dealer. He warned of snarled traffic, violent protests and the unlikelihood of a "media narrative" about a Cleveland comeback. "The media love to complain, and complain they will," he wrote.

Talk of a Cleveland revival has been fanned before. It came two decades ago with the opening of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and a downtown renewal that included the 20,500-seat arena where the Cleveland Cavaliers play, which would be home to the party hats and balloons of a nominating convention.



Restaurant Row in downtown Cleveland. The busily rehabilitating city in Ohio, a state whose voters have have correctly picked the president every time since 1964, is the only city on both the Republicans' and Democrats' list of candidates to host their national conventions.

(Michael F. McElroy/The New York Times)

Downtown Cleveland is busily rehabilitating. The restaurant scene is percolating, and young newcomers are giving faded neighborhoods west of downtown, where brew pubs and bistros are opening, a patina of hipness.

And now, Cleveland is a candidate for both the Republicans' and Democrats' 2016 conventions - the only city to make both lists. Landing either one, with its tens of thousands of visitors and prime-time TV coverage, would immerse the city in a bath of national attention that is making boosters giddy.

that this is about the renaissance of Cleveland. Ohio is the quintessential swing state. Its voters have correctly picked the president every time since 1964. Barack Obama and Mitt Romney spent so much time barnstorming the small towns and university arenas of Ohio in 2012 it sometimes seemed the entire election was being fought in the Buckeye State.

Although Cleveland is heavily Democratic, with large numbers of black voters, the surrounding suburbs of Cuyahoga County have many Republicans. The city's host commit-

tee Democratic margin of victory for a county in a battleground state.")

But a convention may have less influence on local voters than many assume. Both Democrats, who gathered in Charlotte, North Carolina last time, and Republicans, who were in Tampa, Florida, lost their convention states.

Ryan Mahoney, a spokesman for the Republican National Committee, said the choice would come down to other factors. "It's a business decision at the end of the day," he said. Central considerations are the ability of the host com-



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# Obama's no-war plan meets jihadi reality

MARK LANDLER  
MICHAEL R. GORDON  
MARK MAZZETTI

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WASHINGTON - Speaking at West Point in May, President Barack Obama laid out a blueprint for fighting terrorism that relies less on U.S. soldiers, like the cadets in his audience that day, and more on training troops in countries where those threats had taken root.

But this indirect approach, intended to avoid costly, bloody wars like the one the United States waged in Iraq, immediately collided with reality, when a lethal jihadi insurgency swept across the same Iraqi battlefields where thousands of Americans had lost their lives.

The seizing of large parts of Iraq by Sunni militants - an offensive hastened by the collapse of the U.S.-trained Iraqi army - stunned the White House and has laid bare the limitations of a policy that depends on the cooperation of often balky and overmatched partners.

While the militants, from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, or ISIL, have moved swiftly to establish a caliphate from eastern Syria to central Iraq, the White House is struggling to repel them with measures administration officials concede will take months or longer to be effective.

At West Point, Obama spoke hopefully of a "network of partnerships from South Asia to the Sahel." The reality, on chaotic display in Iraq, is likely to be far messier. The United States, constrained by a war-weary public, will have to rely on a constantly shifting cast of surrogates to confront the threats it once took on largely by itself - a trade-off that will require patience as well as a new determination at the White House to arm and train local forces.

Last week, Obama announced a plan to spend \$500 million to train and equip rebels in Syria. But the Pentagon has only be-

gun detailed planning for the program, and officials said it would be months, or even more than a year, before the fighters would be battle-ready.

"The Islamic State's resources are increasing faster than the appropriations process back in Washing-

a rapid-response force of drones, special forces and intelligence assets.

"Building capable partners is clearly the long-term solution," said Benjamin J. Rhodes, a deputy national security adviser. "But as we've shown in places like Yemen and Somalia, if we

weapons and ammunition, the Sunni militants have stepped up their offensive in Syria, capturing much of the oil-rich province of Deir ez-Zor on Thursday.

White House officials say Obama anticipated threats like ISIL in his May commencement address



**President Barack Obama presents a diploma at a U.S. Military Academy commencement ceremony in West Point, N.Y., May 28, 2014. Speaking here, Obama laid out plans to fight terrorism through local allies, but the quick rise to power of Sunni extremists in Iraq has stunned the White House and underscored the limitations of depending on often unreliable partners.**

(Gabiella Demczuk/The New York Times)

ton," said Robert S. Ford, a former U.S. ambassador to Syria who is now a resident scholar at the Middle East Institute. "The administration is going to have to think of some things to do in the short term."

In Iraq, the Pentagon faces months of work to rebuild the shattered Iraqi security forces, which it trained over a decade at a cost of \$25 billion. And the administration's efforts to press the Iraqis to fend off the militants by forming an inclusive national government have been bogged down by the country's deep-rooted sectarian feuds.

White House officials acknowledged it would take time to execute Obama's policy, but pointed to other parts of the Middle East where they said the United States had deployed

have to fill gaps with U.S. direct action against a specific terrorist threat, we are prepared to do so."

Obama has not ruled out targeted airstrikes on militant positions in either Iraq or Syria. But that could raise political problems with a skeptical Congress and a wary American public, and the efficacy of strikes is uncertain, given how ISIL fighters have intermingled with other Sunni militants who oppose the government.

"That's going to be a tough challenge, to separate them, if we were to take a decision to strike," Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said at a briefing Thursday.

Adding to the urgency of the situation are the gains ISIL is making. Having captured Mosul and seized

at West Point, where he spoke of "decentralized al-Qaida affiliates and extremists, many with agendas focused in the countries where they operate." Obama's cautious response appears properly calibrated to the nature of the threat, said Steven Simon, who served on the National Security Council during Obama's first term. Despite their swift advances, ISIL fighters have been stopped short of Baghdad by Iraqi forces and Shiite militias.

Administration officials said the Iraq crisis had not altered its policy in Syria because the goal was always to equip rebels to fight extremist groups, as well as the forces of President Bashar Assad. Nor has the White House set aside its goal of ousting Assad, they said. □

## Democrats hopeful improving job data will sway fall voters

JACKIE CALMES  
© 2014 New York Times

WASHINGTON - While the jobs report for June released Thursday sent stock markets soaring as investors celebrated another sign of a rebounding economy, voters are hardly so easily moved.

Yet for President Barack Obama and congressional Democrats, the numbers kindled hopes of a lift to their party's downbeat prospects in this fall's mid-term elections.

Even as international crises dominate the news and the attention of the White House and Congress, the economy continues to be the main concern of most voters, polls show. While Thursday's jobs report for June sent stock markets soaring as investors celebrated another sign of a rebounding economy, voters are not so easily moved. Republicans remain confident of winning control of both chambers of Congress for the final two years of Obama's administration, and emphasized other, negative data - the president's continued slump in the polls, and a majority's disapproval of his overall job performance as well as his handling of the economy. Reince Priebus, Republican Party chairman, said in a statement, "Millions of our fellow Americans think the American dream is slipping away because they can't find good jobs in the Obama economy."

And, Republicans argue, the four months left until November are too few to shift the political winds Democrats face.

"Years of past data tell us the election environment in an off-year election is set by June or July," said Bill McInturff, a Republican pollster. "With the president's ratings lower than they were in October of 2010" - a month before the previous midterm elections, in which Republicans scored big gains - "the Democrats will be facing very difficult political terrain this fall." □



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## Ukraine claims winning ground in rebellious east

**DAVID McHUGH**  
**Associated Press**

**KIEV, Ukraine (AP)** — Fighting in eastern Ukraine left at least nine Ukrainian soldiers dead Friday, as government troops pressed their offensive against pro-Russian insurgents using heavy artillery and combat jets and prospects of a truce appeared dim.

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko said Ukraine was ready to conduct another round of talks between representatives from Ukraine, Russia and the rebels on Saturday, but didn't name their venue. Two previous rounds of such negotiations held during a 10-day ceasefire have yielded no visible progress, but they brought the warring parties together for the first time.

Moscow strongly pushed for extending the truce and holding more talks in an apparent hope to negotiate a settlement that would allow it to secure a degree of influence over the neighbor. The continuing fighting is putting more pressure on Russian President Vladimir Putin, who has been facing increasingly angry nationalist demands to send troops to help the insurgency — a move that would inevitably trigger crippling Western sanctions.

Ukraine's National Security Council chief Andriy Parubiy said Friday that Russia was massing troops near the Ukrainian border and claimed that it let insurgents attack the Ukrainian border posts from its side. The statements could not be independently verified. The two neighbors, who share a 2,000-kilometer (1,250-mile) border that is unmarked and unguarded outside of a few checkpoints, have been trading

claims and counterclaims ever since Ukraine began fighting pro-Russia separatists in April.

The government said nine troops were killed and 13 others were wounded in Friday's fighting in the east, according to the Interfax news agency. It did not elaborate on where or how the deaths occurred. Valentyn Nalyvaychenko, the head of Ukraine's SBU security service, told journalists that over the past four days 20 Russian tanks or armored vehicles had illegally crossed the border to take part in the insurgency. Ukraine says Russia is arming and supporting the separatists, a charge



A child plays football near soldiers from the "Donbass" battalion of Ukraine, outside the Parliament in Kiev, Ukraine. Fighting in eastern Ukraine left at least nine Ukrainian soldiers dead Friday, as government troops pressed their offensive against pro-Russian insurgents.

(AP Photo/Sergei Chuzavkov)

that Russia denies. For its part, Moscow has repeatedly accused Ukrainian troops of firing shells that landed on the Russian side and on one occasion last month hit a Russian border post, wounding one customs officer. Russian border guards said 10 artillery shells flew from the Ukrainian side Friday, but no one was injured.

It is nearly impossible to prove or dispel the claims from the opposing sides, since the fighting consists of intermittent clashes between small units with no fixed front line and it is deadly dangerous for journalists and other observers to travel around. □

## Iraq's al-Maliki signals his intent to stay in job

**RYAN LUCAS**  
**QASSIM ZAHRA**  
**Associated Press**

**BAGHDAD (AP)** — Despite mounting pressure to step aside, Iraq's Nouri al-Maliki vowed Friday not to abandon his bid for another term as prime minister and pledged to stay on until the Sunni militants who have overrun much of the country are defeated.

The sharp words are certain to prolong the political impasse gripping Iraq, which is facing urgent demands for a new government that can hold the nation together in the face of an onslaught that threatens to cleave it in three along ethnic and sectarian lines. The offensive by militants who have swept across much of northern and western Iraq since last month has been fueled in part by grievances among the country's Sunni Muslim minority with al-Maliki and his Shiite-led government. Al-Maliki, a Shiite who has

been prime minister since 2006, has been accused by former allies and others of monopolizing power and contributing to the crisis by failing to promote reconciliation with Sunnis. The U.S. has urged the for-

mation of a more inclusive government but has not explicitly called for al-Maliki to bow out.

In what has been seen as a rebuke of al-Maliki, Iraq's top Shiite cleric, Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, has pressed

lawmakers to quickly form a new government that can confront the militant threat and unite the country. Lawmakers failed in their first session of parliament on Tuesday to make any progress.

On Friday, al-Sistani lamented the inability of political leaders to agree on a new prime minister and urged them to redouble their efforts, a cleric who represents him told worshippers in a sermon in the holy city of Karbala.

Al-Maliki's State of law bloc won the most parliamentary seats in April elections, which would traditionally make him the leading candidate to head a new government. But al-Maliki failed to gain a majority in the legislature, meaning he needs allies to form a government.

That has set the stage for intense wrangling over the makeup of a coalition — and, above all, who will be prime minister. □



Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki arrives for a meeting in Baghdad in June, 2014. Al-Maliki said in a statement issued by his office Friday, July 4, 2014, that he will fight until the Islamic militants who have overrun much of the country are defeated, suggesting he won't step down despite pressure for him to do so.

(Brendan Smialowski/The New York Times)



# Rebel leader Kony “hibernates,” evades jungle hunt

**RODNEY MUHUMUZA**

**Associated Press**

**NZACKO, Central African Republic (AP)** —

The African troops hoped the latest defector from the Lord's Resistance Army rebel group would have fresh insight into the location of infamous warlord Joseph Kony.

But Sam Opio, a senior rebel commander who defected last week, shook his head and said he hadn't seen rebel leader Kony since 2010.

He is not alone. All recent defectors have denied seeing or communicating with Kony in the last few years, complicating the work of U.S.-backed Ugandan troops who are hunting down rebels in the dense, often-impenetrable jungles of Central Africa that cover the size of France. An Associated Press reporter recently trailed soldiers tracking a small group of rebels. Ugandan commanders lead the chase for Kony, who is wanted by the International Criminal Court over many atrocities, from Obo, a tactical base set up in the middle of a sprawling bush in the southeastern part of Central African Republic. Their mandate — to kill or capture Kony — sets a high bar for foot soldiers who may also be at a disadvantage against a man who has spent all of his adult life in the bush.

“He's like a myth,” Ugandan Lt. Col. John Kagwisa, the intelligence officer for

military operations against the rebels, said of Kony. “His (fighters) see him as some kind of god, their spiritual god.

They say that Kony can see what you're doing in the bush even if you're many

ahead of his pursuers. He now eschews any use of hi-tech devices, leaving soldiers heavily reliant on any human intelligence they can glean from defectors or civilians who encounter rebels scattered through

commanders for the Lord's Resistance Army may spend years without seeing their boss, they said.

“Where is he now? My guess is as good as yours. That's how elusive he is,” said Ugandan Col. Michael



**Ugandan and U.S. soldiers examine the belongings of three fighters who defected from the Lord's Resistance Army rebel group in Central African Republic. African troops hoped the latest defector from the Lord's Resistance Army rebel group would have something fresh to say about the possible whereabouts of the infamous warlord Joseph Kony. But Sam Opio, a senior rebel commander who defected last week, shook his head and said he hadn't seen rebel leader Kony since 2010.**

(AP Photo/Rodney Muhumuza)

miles away.”

Kony has gone into what Ugandan commanders call “hibernation.”

In Central African Republic, a sparsely populated but chaotic country with a history of political upheaval, Kony has a wide theater in which to operate and stay

Congo and Central African Republic.

Ugandan military commanders leading the mission say that it's likely most of the defectors haven't seen or heard from Kony in years. Kony now uses personal couriers to send out his orders, so even senior

Kabango, commander of Ugandan troops in Central African Republic.

Despite the challenges, commanders say the daily slog in the jungle is justified because it keeps rebels on the run and unable to regroup. Hundreds of rebels have defected since 2008.

# China court jails Christian pastor for twelve years

**DIDI TANG**

**Associated Press**

**BEIJING (AP)** — The pastor of a Christian church in central China was sentenced to 12 years in prison on Friday in what supporters say is a crackdown aimed at curbing fast-growing religious activity, his lawyer said.

Zhang Shaojie of the Nanle County Christian Church in Henan province was convicted of fraud and of gathering crowds to disturb public order, according to lawyer Yang Xingquan.

Zhang's church is sanctioned by the Communist government, which allows worship only in state-monitored groups, but has been involved in a dispute with local authorities over land for a new building.

By official estimates, China has 23 million Christians. The country also has a large number of unsanctioned underground, or home, churches that have attracted millions of worshippers and have been targeted in repeated crackdowns. A report by the Washington,

D.C.-based Pew Research Center said there were likely 67 million Christians in the country in 2010, including 58 million Protestants and 9 million Catholics.

The ruling party is wary of religion as a possible rallying point to challenge its rule and uneasy about the rapid spread of Christianity three decades after Beijing loosened social controls in pursuit of economic development.

In the eastern Zhejiang province, where Christianity has been particularly

popular, local governments have been tearing down crosses on Christian churches, even if they have been officially sanctioned, on the grounds that they lack construction permits.

The crackdown on Christian churches could be an extension of an ongoing campaign to suppress the growth of civil society in the country, said Prof. Fenggang Yang, a sociologist and expert on religion in China at Purdue University.

## France: Mother kills kindergarten teacher in class

**ANGELA CHARLTON**

**Associated Press**

**PARIS (AP)** — The mother of a pupil at a French pre-school stabbed a teacher to death in front of her class Friday, the last day of the school year, authorities said. The education minister said the mother apparently had “serious psychiatric problems,” and pledged support for teachers in the face of angry or violent parents. Police said the mother was taken into custody.

Deadly attacks in a school are extremely rare in France, and the stabbing in front of a class of 5- and 6-year-olds raised concern at the highest levels. French President Francois Hollande expressed outrage at the attack at the Edouard Herriot school in Albi in southern France.

Education Minister Benoit Hamon traveled immediately to the school, and told reporters that the mother of a pupil “committed this abominable act in a class against a remarkable teacher.” A police official said the mother stabbed the teacher with a knife soon after school started Friday morning.

Hamon said the attacker's child had been in the school only for a month and a half, and the mother had had very little contact with the school staff until Friday. It was unclear whether her 5-year-old daughter was in class at the time of the attack. Police and city officials would not comment on possible reasons for the attack on Fabienne Terral-Calmès, 34. The slain teacher had two small daughters, Hamon said.

The regional prosecutor was expected to speak publicly about the case Friday evening.

After Friday's attack, “the children were immediately taken in by another teacher who brought them to another classroom to talk to them, to tell them stories, to try to break them away from what they had just lived through,” Hamon said.



# Xi rebukes Japan for brutality in China, Korea

HYUNG-JIN KIM

Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) —

The leaders of China and South Korea expressed concern Friday about Japan's recent reinterpretation

of its war-renouncing constitution and its re-examination of a past apology for wartime atrocities, a South Korean official said.

Japan colonized the Korean Peninsula and occupied parts of China, often brutally, before and during World War II. Many people in China and South Korea still harbor a strong resent-

ment against Japan, and there are concerns in both countries about growing nationalism in Tokyo. Visiting Chinese President

Xi Jinping and his South Korean President Park Geun-hye had "lots of discussions" about Japan, and shared worries about its "revisionist attitude" and reinterpretation of its con-

stitution to allow its military a larger international role, senior South Korean presidential official Ju Chul-ki told reporters.

Both leaders also regretted Japan's recent review of its landmark 1993 apology for forcing Asian women into wartime prostitution because it was an apparent attempt to "disparage" the apology, Ju said, according to the presidential Blue House.

Last month, a Japanese panel confirmed the validity of a study that led to the apology, but South Korea called the review unnecessary and said it included material that undermined the reliability of the apology.

Historians say up to 200,000 women from across Asia, many of them Koreans, were forced to provide sex to Japan's front-line soldiers. Japanese nationalists contend that the so-called "comfort women" were voluntary prostitutes, not sex slaves, and that Japan has been unfairly criticized for a practice they say is common in any country at war.

Earlier Friday, Xi highlighted Japan's past brutality against China and Korea during a speech on the fi-

nal day of his visit to Seoul. "Our two countries had big suffering when (Japan) launched barbarous aggression on China and Korea and annexed and occupied the Korean Peninsula in the first half of the 20th century," he said.

He noted that in the late 16th century a Chinese dynasty sent troops to help a Korean dynasty defeat invading Japanese troops.

"Both countries' nationals ... walked shoulder to shoulder to battle grounds together 400 years ago," Xi said, speaking through an interpreter.

China assisted North Korea and fought against South Korea during the 1950-53 Korean War, while American-led U.N. troops fought alongside South Korea.

South Korea and China established diplomatic relations in 1992.

The countries now have booming trade ties and share concerns about Japan's military ambitions and what critics see as recent attempts by Tokyo to obscure its bloody past. □



Chinese President Xi Jinping delivers a speech during Korea China Investment Forum at a hotel in Seoul, South Korea Friday, July 4, 2014.

(AP Photo/Kim Hong-ji, Pool)

## Myanmar:

### Mandalay City tense but under control

YANGON, Myanmar (AP) —

The funeral of a Buddhist man killed during sectarian violence this week in the central Myanmar city of Mandalay stirred passions Friday but no major new unrest was reported.

Calm was restored to the city with an overnight curfew declared Thursday after two nights of violence by Buddhist extremists against Muslims. One Muslim and one Buddhist were killed, and 14 people were injured. The unrest raised fears that ethnic violence that has plagued the country for two years might escalate again.

Hundreds of people on foot and motorcycle joined the funeral procession Friday for the Buddhist man who had been killed. His hearse was draped with a poster of his bloody body blaming Muslims for his death. The

crowd damaged a Muslim cemetery and threw stones at mosques but otherwise avoided violence.

"The situation was tense but no clashes or violence took place," said Than Nyunt, a Muslim elder contacted by phone. Win Mya Mya, a Muslim member of the opposition National League for Democracy party led by Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, said some people who wanted to incite unrest shouted that they didn't want any mosques in the city, and were responsible for the stone-throwing. Security forces have been criticized for failing to do much to stop the two nights of violence. A Buddhist resident of Mandalay, who was a political prisoner under the country's former military regime, criticized the regional government on Friday "for their failure to

stop the mob and the violence."

He said they did not enforce a ban on assemblies of more than five people that was imposed Thursday.

Myanmar, a predominantly Buddhist nation, has been grappling with violence since 2012 that has left up to 280 people dead and 140,000 others homeless, most of them Muslims attacked by Buddhist militants. Most of it has taken place in western Rakhine state.

This week's unrest was the first in Mandalay, an important center of Buddhist culture and learning where Muslims and Buddhists have traditionally lived peacefully together.

The Mandalay regional government posted details of the attacks on its website Friday. □

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# Haitians thwarted as they seek Dominican status

EZEQUIEL ABIU LOPEZ

Associated Press

**SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (AP)** —

Thousands of Haitians have been lining up this summer at government offices in the Dominican Republic trying to take advantage of a rare chance to secure legal status in a country where they've long lived in the shadows.

For most, hope is quickly turning into disappointment.

Since a program to grant residency to Haitians who have been living in the Dominican Republic since 2011 opened June 2, only a tiny fraction of applicants have managed to show sufficient documentation from their homeland to secure the status, officials say. And a deadline to register or face deportation arrives early next year.

Migrant workers like Lucene Philome, part of a small group who spent a recent night camped out at the Ministry of the Interior to be at the front of the line the next day, say they are being told that their documents must include a Hai-

tian identity card, passport or birth certificate.

"I lacked just about everything," Philome said as he emerged from the office.

even had a tough time getting his fingerprints taken by Dominican officials.

Migrants from Haiti have long had a tough time in

Haiti's government, which has been slow to issue the needed documents amid its usual bureaucratic torpor and has been charg-



**Adenes Dieudonne, a Haitian immigrant in the Dominican Republic, poses for a photo to start her registration in the "regularization process" of foreigners living in the Dominican Republic, in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. The Dominican Republic, which is comparatively much wealthier than its neighbor, has long been a magnet for low-wage workers from Haiti but it has been seeking to limit unregulated, cross-border traffic in recent years.**

(AP Photo/Ezequiel Abiu Lopez)

The 36-year-old, whose many years as a bricklayer have worn down his hands, the Dominican Republic, but in this case their anger is largely directed at

ing fees that are far higher than most people can afford. Haitians have staged several protests in recent weeks outside their government's embassy in Santo Domingo over the issue. Haiti is charging the equivalent of about \$60 for a new birth certificate, voter ID and a passport, a special rate for the migrant registration process since it normally costs \$80 for a just a passport.

Still, it's too expensive in a place where migrant workers barely earn \$5 a day, said William Charpentier, director of the National Migration Roundtable, a non-governmental group. "In our view, the Haitian authorities have been somewhat irresponsible," Charpentier said.

The Haitian government has been coming under increasing international pressure to address the issue and a solution may emerge before the deadline. But the Dominican residency process, known as "regularization," is clearly off to a slow start. □

# El Salvador ends odd dispute with U.S. over seeds

ELISABETH MALKIN

© 2014 New York Times

**MEXICO CITY** - The United States and El Salvador said this week that they had settled their differences over compliance with the fine print of a trade agreement that threatened to hold up aid to the small Central American country, but the timing of the dispute has become an embarrassment for officials in Washington.

The surge of Central American migrants to the United States in the past few months has been a stark reminder of the poverty and violence they face at home. To some, the haggling over a program to help poor farmers in El Salvador has looked tone-deaf. At the heart of the dispute is the way the Salvadoran government buys corn and bean seeds for subsistence farmers. The United States had objected to moves to favor small, local seed producers on the grounds that they violated the Central American Free Trade Agreement.

But Wednesday, after articles about the dispute appeared in the Washington media and 16 members of the House of Representatives called on Secretary of State John Kerry not to use changes to the food program as a condition for aid, the U.S. Embassy in El Salvador said that the dispute had been resolved. The U.S. trade representative's office said that the countries had already reached a resolution last week.

The resolution clears up one issue that blocked the \$277 million aid package approved in September by the Millennium Challenge Corp., a U.S. aid agency. Washington is still waiting for El Salvador to tighten controls on money laundering to release the funds. In 2012, the Salvadoran government excluded foreign seed companies from a program known as the Family Farming Plan in an effort to encourage local producers. □

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## 10th Prokids Bonaire IFCA Championship Comes to a Close

**-“A well deserved closing event for an entire week of two world championship events”**

BONAIRE - The 10th Prokids Bonaire IFCA Championship 2014 started with a very enticing opening ceremony on June 25th and closed with a bang on June 29th. The final results were announced during the Award Ceremony where all the winners who competed in Slalom and Freestyle were called on stage to receive their trophy, certificate and prizes. The other winners of Beach Soccer Veterans, Beach Soccer Youth and Beach Bolas also received their trophy and prizes on stage. After the award ceremony the celebration went on with performances by the well known Janiro Eidsen from the group Basic One together with Biggy Boy directly from Aruba and DJ Caliber from Curacao. The MC for the evening was Mr. Gerrald Victorina the General Coordina-



tor of the PWA Bonaire World Cup event and the 10th Prokids Bonaire IFCA Championship 2014 event that took place during the entire week of June 20th till June 29th.

After the opening speeches from different guests speakers and acknowledgements to all who contributed for the success of the events the Award Ceremony could start by calling the winners of the different Beach Sports such as Beach Soccer Veterans, Beach Soccer Youth and Beach Bolas, followed by the winners of Freestyle and



Slalom.

The final results in Slalom are: U-9 Girls first place Rosa Ruijter from Bonaire, U-9 Boys first place Jean-karl Mayer, second place Dante Abraham and third place Davion Coffie all three from Bonaire. U-13 Girls first place Alyssa Wijnand from Bonaire, second place Anne Coenen from Curacao and third place Koleta Abrahamsz from Bonaire. U-13 Boys first place losu Balzaretti from Mexico, second place Davinton Janga and third place Gian Martis, both from Bonaire. U-15A Boys first place Wave Antonia and second place Stijn Overwater, both from Curacao, third place Melvin van der Linde from Aruba. U-15B Boys first place Raynold Wilsoe, second place Arnold Wilsoe and third place Hayley Thode, all three from Bonaire. U-15B Girls first place Luz Day Zambrano and second place Davie Janga, both from Bonaire. U-17 Boys first

place Gunther Landwier from Bonaire, second place Mark Tjon from Aruba and third place Jurgen Saragoza from Bonaire. Women first place Monique Meijer from Bonaire. U-20 Boys first place Ethan Westera and second place Willem ten Ham, both from Aruba and in third place Richard Richie from Curacao.

The final results in Freestyle are: U-7 Baby Class Girls first place Gillien Vrolijk from Aruba, U-7 Baby Class Boys first place Kingston Coffie and second place Everson Frans, both from Bonaire. U-9 Boys first place Jeankarl Mayer and second place Dante Abraham, both from Bonaire. U-13 Girls first place Koleta Abrahamsz from Bonaire and in second place Anne Coenen from Curacao. U-13 Boys first place Faan Coenen from Curacao, second place Davinton Janga and third place Darwin Perdomo, both from Bonaire. U-15 Girls first place Luz Day Zambrano

from Bonaire, U-15 Boys first place Wave Antonia from Curacao, second place Smit Luis from Bonaire, and in third place Rowan Richie from Curacao. U-17 Boys first place Shephard “Chappy” Gustowski and second place Quincy Marchena, both from Bonaire and in third place Johnny Yagen from Israel. U-20 first place Ethan Westera from Aruba, second place Kenroy Francisca and third place Richard Richie, both from Curacao.

We would like to thank the entire community of Bonaire and other visitors who came to Sorobon and cheered for the participants in all the different sports the entire week. We would also like to thank all our sponsors for their support and contribution once again for making the event such a successful one. Thanks to: MCB Bonaire NV, TCB, Government of Bonaire, Budget Car Rental, ‘Fundashon Wega di Number’, TELBO, ENNIA, ‘Krioyo Paint’, Ober-si Group, Budget Marine, Hites Bonaire, Don Andres, Akkermans Auto Supplies, STINAPA, Gio’s Gelateria & Café, Cactus Accounting, Flamingo TV, Bonaire Windsurf Place, ClickPrint Aruba, Caterpillar, Selibon, Indebon, Kite City, Bonaire Container Services and Starboard. Visit our website [www.prokidsfreestyle.com](http://www.prokidsfreestyle.com) and our Facebook Page: Prokids Windsurfing Bonaire for more pictures of the events. □







## Divi Resorts Donates 5 Electric Cars to EPB HATO



**ORANJESTAD** - Divi has proudly donated 5 Electric Cars to EPB Hato for the "Auto Monteur" Unit on July

2, 2014.

Mr. Alex Nieuwmeyer, Managing Director of Grape Holding N.V. and Divi Re-

sorts donated the 5 Electric Cars to the school so they can use this to help increase their knowledge of

the Electric Car System and make this a special project for the school. Mr. Nieuwmeyer together

with the Executive Team from Divi Resorts; Mr. Patrick Franssen, Mr. Gerrit Griffith and Mrs. Maria Geerman-Esguerra were all in attendance for this wonderful moment.

The school's teachers; Mr. Reginald Ramon – Teacher of Auto Monteur Unit, Ms. Mari Flor Nicolaas – Unit Manager, in representation of EPB Hato together with some students, were more than happy to receive this kind donation from Divi and said that they would make excellent use of the cars.

The school already has some projects in the works and are excited to get started with this for the new school year. □





# Guests from Brazil enjoy Fishes & More Restaurant!



**PALM BEACH** - They left their country in the midst of the soccer craziness for a nice, relaxing holiday on Aruba: Gabriela (18), Luisa (15), Carlos (52) and Sandra Romalielo (52) from Brazil. This great family happened to walk past the Arawak Garden when their eyes fell on Fishes &

More Restaurant, one of the lovely restaurants of this intimate plaza. They decided on the spot that this would be the place to have dinner and they did, greatly enjoying the shrimp and lobster casserole as well as the live music. The Arawak Garden is situated across from the Occiden-

tal Resort on the hi-rise strip. Restaurants, a piano bar, small kiosks and live music make up the Garden, which is a popular choice for visitors and locals alike. We're happy you were so pleased and come back soon, Gabriela, Luisa, Carlos and Sandra Romalielo! □

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Joseph and Rosemary Parascondola with Jasmine Maduro (Director of Operations) and Jenny Boekhoudt (Executive Admin Assistant).

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## Brazil wins, but Neymar ruled out of World Cup

TALES AZZONI

AP Sports Writer

**FORTALEZA, Brazil (AP)** —

Not long after celebrating another all-important win at the World Cup, Brazil was jolted by the loss of Neymar.

The tournament's poster boy with the dyed-blond fauxhawk fractured a vertebra in his back during Brazil's 2-1 quarterfinal victory over Colombia on Friday. The injury has ruled the striker out of the rest of the competition, dealing a massive blow to the team's chances of finally winning a World Cup at home.

Brazil advanced to the semifinals for the first time in 12 years, with the goals coming from defenders Thiago Silva and David Luiz. But the jubilation was quickly tempered when Brazil team doctor Rodrigo Lasmar said Neymar broke his third vertebrae and is expected to be out for several weeks, ruling him out of Tuesday's semifinal match against Germany in Belo Horizonte.

"It's a situation that leaves us in a difficult position for the match against Germany," Brazil coach Luiz Felipe Scolari said. "But we have great players and if I have to change something I will do it and we will be OK."

The 22-year-old Neymar has been the focal point of both the Brazilian team and the entire World Cup, and he lived up to expectations with four goals in the first three matches.

But he took a knee to the back late in the match against Colombia at the Arena Castelao in a collision with Juan Camilo Zuniga. The Brazilian star was crying in pain as he was carried off the field, and was taken to a private clinic. He has since been released.



Brazil's Neymar is carried away after getting injured during the World Cup quarterfinal soccer match between Brazil and Colombia at the Arena Castelao in Fortaleza, Brazil, Friday, July 4, 2014.

Associated Press

Continued on Page 20



# Billy Hurley takes Greenbrier lead by 1 shot

JOHN RABY

AP Sports Writer

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, West Virginia (AP) —

Billy Hurley III shot a 7-under 63 on Friday to take a one-stroke lead after the second round of the Greenbrier Classic.

Hurley's bogey-free round included a chip-in from 29 feet on No. 4 in cool conditions before the wind picked up considerably late in his morning round.

The former U.S. Navy officer says it was "pretty cool" that it occurred on America's birthday.

"You know, anytime you play good, it's great, right?" Hurley said. "There's special days of the year for our country, and having served (in the military) ... adds something to it."

Hurley was at 9-under 131 at Old White TPC. Eleven players were within four shots of him.

Kevin Chappell (65) and



Billy Hurley III tees off the ninth hole during the second round of the Greenbrier Classic golf tournament at the Greenbrier Resort in White Sulphur Springs, W.Va., Friday, July 4, 2014.

Associated Press

Chris Stroud (66) were a stroke back at 8 under. Troy Matteson had a 61 to vault into fourth place at 7 under. He has made the cut in all five years of the Greenbrier Classic.

Brice Garnett (66), Steve Stricker (68) and Chris Kirk (69) were another stroke back at 6 under.

Reigning Masters champion Bubba Watson was

among five players at 5 under. He shot 67.

Hurley spent five years in the U.S. Navy and played golf sparingly while stationed in Hawaii. But being mentally tough on the course comes easy for Hurley, whose missions included steering a Navy destroyer through the Suez Canal.

Hurley rejoined the U.S. PGA Tour this season and

has three top 10 finishes so far, including a tie for eighth at Congressional last week. His best career finish is a tie for fourth in the AT&T National two years ago, also at Congressional.

A solid ending at The Greenbrier resort would get Hurley into the British Open later this month. The four best finishers not previously eligible among the top 12 on the final leaderboard will earn spots in the July 17-20 tournament at Royal Liverpool.

Playing partner Chris Stroud said he was amazed at how Hurley could recapture his golf game after his time in the military. "There's a lot to be said about that," he said.

Stroud birdied four of his first five holes but gained no more ground.

Chappell's round included holing a 35-yard pitch on the par-3 15th after a poor tee shot.

His only top 10 finish of the season came at Colonial. But this week, he's at ease amid the mountains of West Virginia.

"You know, the course has a great flow to it, just at peace out there," he said. "All the running water and all the good scenery just puts me in a good spot."

Matteson holed a 35-yard pitch on the par-3 15th and needed just 19 putts — one shy of the PGA Tour record held by eight players.

"It was unlike any day I've had this year," said Matteson, who had missed the cut in 11 of his previous 13 tournaments. "I just haven't been getting it in the hole all year, and to have a day like this really kind of turns things around."

First-round leader Jonas Blixt of Sweden had three early bogeys and shot 73 to drop into a tie for 25th at 3 under.



This Sept. 30, 2013, file photo shows Miami Heat basketball player LeBron James posed during the team's media day in Miami.

Associated Press

TOM WITHERS

AP Sports Writer

CLEVELAND (AP) — Four years after their messy breakup, the Cleveland Cavaliers and LeBron James are talking about a reunion.

Cavs officials met with James' agent, Rich Paul, this week about the free-agent superstar's possible

return. The sides met as James continued his family vacation, a person with knowledge of the details told The Associated Press on Thursday.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitive nature of the talks.

James recently opted out of the final two years of his

## AP Source: Cavaliers meet with agent for James

contract in Miami. The two-time NBA champion has gone to four straight finals with the Heat. However, after the team was throttled by San Antonio in this year's finals, James said he would weigh his options this summer.

One of them could be resigning with the Cavs, the team he spent seven seasons with before leaving in 2010 to join forces with Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh in South Florida. Wade and Bosh also opted out of their deals with Heat, raising speculation the "Big Three" could be headed in different directions.

James' decision to leave Cleveland prompted owner Dan Gilbert to condemn him in a scathing letter to Cavs fans. The owner also told The AP he felt James had quit during games in the playoffs.

ESPN has reported that Paul also met with representatives for Phoenix, Houston and Dallas.

The Cavs have waited patiently for their chance to try and convince the Akron, Ohio, native to come home. In the past few weeks, the Cavs have hired new coach David Blatt, selected Kansas swingman Andrew Wiggins with the No. 1 overall pick and signed All-Star point guard Kyrie Irving to a five-year, \$90 million contract extension.

Now, they're working on bringing back James, who has never ruled out the possibility of a return.

Two years ago, James was asked if he could ever see himself playing for the Cavs again.

"It would be great," he said. "It would be fun to play in front of these fans again. I had a lot fun times in my seven years here. You can't predict the future and hopefully I continue to stay healthy. I'm here as a Miami Heat player, and I'm happy where I am now, but I don't rule that out in

no sense.

"And if I decide to come back, hopefully the fans will accept me."

James was booed mercilessly by Cleveland fans in his first games back with the Heat, but in recent years he has been received more favorably.

In having Paul meet with other teams, James could simply be putting on pressure for the Heat to upgrade their roster. Miami has been pursuing free agents and Yahoo Sports reported team president Pat Riley and coach Erik Spoelstra met in Los Angeles with Lakers free agent Pau Gasol. The Heat could have trouble surrounding James with enough talent if the reports he will only accept a maximum contract are accurate.

James is scheduled to be in Las Vegas next week to host a basketball camp, and then is expected to attend the World Cup in Brazil.



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## Youth got served: Federer-Djokovic Wimbledon final

HOWARD FENDRICH

AP Tennis Writer

**LONDON (AP)** — Roger Federer was on the decline — or so the thinking went. He was past 30. Had back problems. Tried experimenting with a larger racket. Was a family man, a father to two sets of twins now. Slid down the rankings. Reached zero Grand Slam finals over the past two years. Started losing before the quarterfinals at majors, including in 2013's second round at the All England Club, of all places, to a guy ranked 116th. Look at him now. Federer moved one victory away from a record eighth Wimbledon championship and 18th Grand Slam title over-



Roger Federer of Switzerland watches a return over the net to Milos Raonic of Canada during their men's singles semifinal match at the All England Lawn Tennis Championships in Wimbledon, London, Friday, July 4, 2014.

grab the second set. For Djokovic was volleying poorly — something that surely bothered one of his coaches, three-time Wimbledon champion Boris Becker — and generally struggling to find his strokes. After one botched forehand, Djokovic threw his racket end-over-end in the air and caught it.

"It was a roller coaster," Becker said of his man's up-and-down performance. "It doesn't have to be pretty and perfect all the time. You have to play perfect when it matters most."

Djokovic did. Dimitrov did not, faltering at the end of the last two sets. In the third, his one-handed backhand accounted for three mistakes in the tiebreaker, and he also double-faulted. In the fourth, Dimitrov wasted four set points, including three in the tiebreaker, which he led 6-3, before losing six of the last seven points.

"I probably won't get an hour of sleep," Dimitrov said.

What keeps Djokovic awake at night is that he lost his past three major finals, and five of his past six. Sunday's final will be his 35th match against Federer, who leads 18-16. But it's only their second major final; the other was at the 2007 U.S. Open, won by Federer.

"My game's back where I hoped it would be," said Federer, who lost in the fourth round or earlier at four of the previous five majors but has dropped one set this fortnight.

"Things were difficult all of last year, most of the year, so I'm happy I worked hard off the court to get myself back into shape and back into contention."



Novak Djokovic of Serbia celebrates after defeating Grigor Dimitrov of Bulgaria in their men's singles semifinal match at the All England Lawn Tennis Championships in Wimbledon, London, Friday, July 4, 2014.

Associated Press

all by reaching Sunday's final, where he will face Novak Djokovic.

Federer was asked how much it would mean to add to his trophy collection.

"A lot," said Federer, who turns 33 next month and would be the oldest Wim-

bledon winner in at least a half-century. "I know I don't have 10 left, so I'll try to enjoy it as much as I can." Could he have imagined 12 months ago, after his startlingly early exit, being back in this year's final?

"I wasn't sure," Federer replied. "I hoped."

After so much buzz about

the rise of a new generation to challenge the supremacy of tennis' "Big 4," — a quartet, including Rafael Nadal and Andy Murray, that will have won 36 of the past 38 Slams — Federer and Djokovic turned aside up-and-comers in Friday's semifinals.

Djokovic, the 2011 champion, went first on Centre Court, overcoming dips in his play to beat 11th-seeded Grigor Dimitrov of Bulgaria 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 (2), 7-6 (7) and reach his third final at Wimbledon and 12th in the past 16 majors.

Federer, tied with Pete Sampras and William Renshaw with seven Wimbledon titles, followed with a 6-4, 6-4, 6-4 victory over 11th-seeded Milos Raonic of Canada. Returning serves that topped 130 mph (210 kph), Federer broke Raonic once in each set and took 61 of 80 points on his own serve.

"Just seeing Roger around, seeing his persona, his aura — you know that a lot of

people could have, and have, written him off in a lot of ways," Raonic said, "(but) you knew this was very (possible) for him." Dimitrov (who beat defending champion Murray in the quarterfinals) and Raonic (who beat the man who beat Nadal in the fourth round) are 23 and were making their debuts in a Slam semifinal. Federer was in his 35th; six-time major champion Djokovic was in his 23rd.

It was sunny, 77 degrees (25 Celsius) and windy, and Djokovic and Dimitrov found themselves slip-sliding around the worn court, especially along swaths of brown dirt. One of their many lengthy, entertaining exchanges ended with both face-down on the turf. Djokovic appeared ready to run away with a win, one point from leading by a set and two breaks. But Dimitrov, cheered on by girlfriend Maria Sharapova, hit an ace to erase a break point and reeled off five consecutive games to



# Germany beats France 1-0, reaches World Cup semis

STEVE DOUGLAS

AP Sports Writer

**RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)** — It just wouldn't be the World Cup without Germany in the semifinals.

Harnessing all their big-game experience, the Germans delivered a performance of maturity and efficiency to hold off France 1-0 on Friday and become the first team to reach four straight semifinals in the sport's marquee tournament.

Defender Mats Hummels scored the winning goal in the 13th minute, outmuscling his marker at a free kick to glance a header in off the underside of the crossbar.

Criticized for poor defending in earlier matches, Germany selected a more robust lineup and restricted a flat France team to only a handful of clear-cut opportunities in muggy conditions.

"There was not much in it," France coach Didier Deschamps said. But, "we don't have the international experience Germany has."

While France's young players slumped to the ground



France's goalkeeper Hugo Lloris, left, punches the ball clear from Germany's Mats Hummels during the World Cup quarterfinal soccer match between Germany and France at the Maracana Stadium in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Friday, July 4, 2014.

Associated Press

and some shed tears after the final whistle, the Germans soberly saluted all corners of the Maracana Stadium.

One job done, nothing more.

And next up for Germany is a meeting with host nation Brazil, which beat Colombia 2-1 later Friday. It will be Germany's 13th appearance in the semifinals in 20 editions of the World Cup.

"I guess we're playing the kind of football which will give us a chance to win," said Hummels, who produced a couple of decisive blocks to snuff out two good chances for France striker Karim Benzema.

"We defended well today. I think we deserve to carry on."

France struggled to impose the kind of attacking game that made the team one of the most exciting in Brazil during the group stage, although Benzema — the team's chief attacking threat — squandered chances in both halves.

Late in the first half, the Real Madrid striker seized on a rebound following Manuel Neuer's save from Mathieu Valbuena's shot but his close-range effort was deflected wide by Hummels. Then, in stoppage time, he created space for himself about eight yards out at an angle, but a fierce shot was swatted away by Neuer.

"We played like a team again," said Germany captain Philipp Lahm, who returned to right back in one of a string of tactically astute changes made by coach Joachim Loew.

"Overall it was a good performance from us."

In Loew's eight-year tenure, Germany has reached the last four in every major tournament it has played — but remains without a title since winning the European Championships in 1996.

While the German team seemed comfortable at this level, the occasion was perhaps too much for a young, revamped France team playing together at the World Cup for the first time.

And it continued Germany's recent dominance over France at World Cups. The most notorious of those previous meetings was in the 1982 semifinals in Spain, when Germany won on penalties following a 3-3 draw in a match marked by a late and high tackle by Germany goalkeeper Harald Schumacher on France defender Patrick Battiston that escaped punishment.

That went down as one of the most riveting matches in World Cup history, but the rematch — 32 years on — couldn't have been more different. □

## Brazil wins

Continued from Page 17

"He will not be in condition to play, he will need a few weeks to be fit again," said Lasmar, the team doctor. "He is very, very sad."

The foul on Neymar came toward the end of one of the dirtiest games of the tournament as Brazil committed 31 fouls and Colombia had 23.

Brazil will also be without Silva for Tuesday's match against Germany. The captain must sit out after getting his second yellow card of the tournament after impeding Colombia goalkeeper David Ospina. Brazil, which is trying to become the first host to win the World Cup since France in 1998, had been eliminated in the quarterfinals at the last two tournaments. The "Selecao" lost to the Netherlands in the quarterfinals in 2010 and



Colombia's goalkeeper David Ospina is beaten by a shot from Brazil's David Luiz for the second goal during the World Cup quarterfinal soccer match between Brazil and Colombia at the Arena Castelao in Fortaleza, Brazil, Friday, July 4, 2014.

Associated Press

to France in 2006 after winning its fifth title in 2002. Back in 1950, Brazil needed only a draw in the final match to win the World Cup, but the team lost to Uruguay in a match known as the "Maracanazo."

This time around, Brazil won its group and then beat Chile on penalties in the second round.

On Friday against Colombia, Silva gave Brazil the lead in the seventh minute, scoring with his left knee af-

ter a corner from Neymar passed through the Colombian defense. He celebrated the goal by pointing to the emblem on his jersey and shouting, "This is Brazil, this is Brazil."

Luiz added the second from a free kick in the 69th, side-footing a long-range shot into the top of the net. Colombia got one back in the 80th. James Rodriguez scored his tournament-leading sixth goal from the penalty spot after Brazil goalkeeper Julio Cesar brought down substitute Carlos Bacca inside the area.

Rodriguez tried to control the pace of the match, but it was Brazil that created most of the scoring chances as Ospina had to make a series of saves in the first half alone.

The Colombians tried to pressure after Rodriguez's late penalty, but Brazil held on with solid defending.

Colombia, playing at the World Cup for the first time since 1998 and in the quarterfinals for the first time ever, had entered the match after scoring 11 goals, second only to the Netherlands.

"After not playing in the World Cup for so long, we were able to show the value of the Colombian football and the talent of some of our players," said Colombia coach Jose Pekerman, an Argentine. "They showed great spirit and presence of mind. They came to play a great World Cup, not just to participate."

There was a lot of talk about Rodriguez and Neymar before the match, but the 22-year-old forwards didn't really deliver in Fortaleza. Rodriguez scored the late penalty but was otherwise mostly ineffective, as was Neymar before he left on a stretcher. □



# Beltran hits 3-run HR, sparks Yanks to win

**The Associated Press**  
**MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — MINNEAPOLIS (AP)**—Carlos Beltran gave the foundering Yankees a jolt with a three-run homer Thursday night, lifting Masahiro Tanaka to his major league-leading 12th win and helping New York end a season-worst five-game skid with a 7-4 victory over the Minnesota Twins.

Zelous Wheeler homered in his big league debut after eight years in the minors. David Robertson notched his 19th save with a hitless ninth inning and the Yankees started an 11-game road trip with a sigh-of-relief performance that put their record back at the .500 mark.

Phil Hughes (8-5) was rolling right along against his former team, leading 2-0 until Beltran's big hit cleared the tall wall above right field following consecutive singles to start the fifth. Wheeler went deep two batters later.

Tanaka (12-3) allowed a season-high four runs.

ATHLETICS 4, BLUE JAYS 1  
**OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)** — Sonny Gray allowed four hits over seven innings to bounce back from his worst start of the season for Oakland.

The Blue Jays scored their only run with the help of an odd replay challenge by manager John Gibbons, who wanted to have his own player called out. Stephen Vogt scored the winning run on a passed ball in the second inning and the A's made it hold up behind Gray and two relievers.

Gray (8-3) walked three, struck out five and got some help from Oakland's defense, which turned three double plays, including one in the eighth after Josh Thole's leadoff single. Jose Reyes hit a flyout to deep right and Oakland's Brandon Moss made a strong throw back to first baseman Nate Freiman, who tagged out Thole trying to get back to the bag.

**TIGERS 8, RAYS 1**  
**DETROIT (AP)** — Max Scher-

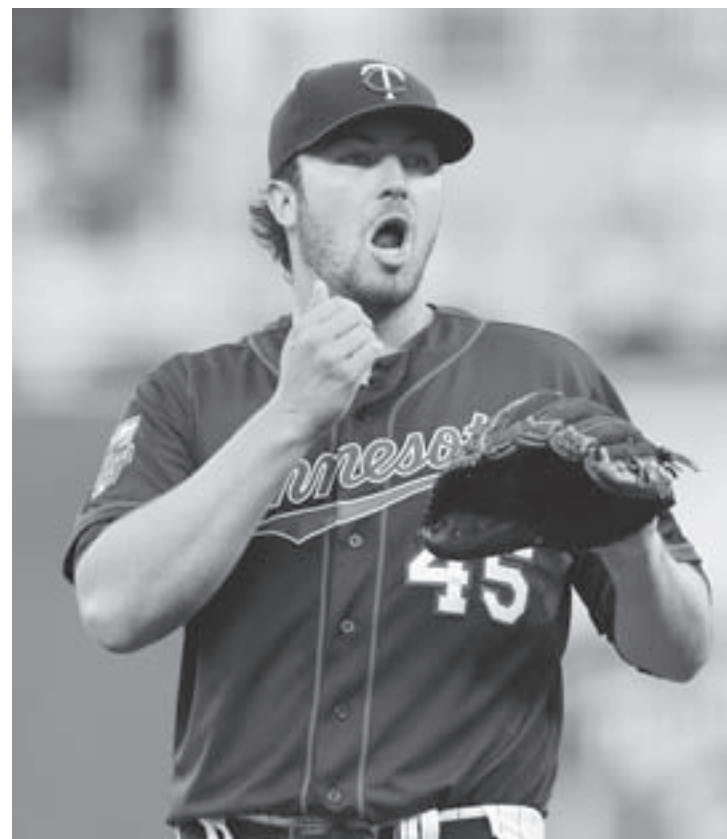
zer allowed two hits in eight outstanding innings, and Detroit backed its star right-hander with three early homers.

Ian Kinsler, Victor Martinez and Torii Hunter all went deep as part of a five-run first inning for the AL Central-leading Tigers, who snapped Tampa Bay's five-game winning streak with their 12th victory in 14 games.

Detroit leads second-place Kansas City by five games. Scherzer (10-3) allowed a first-inning sacrifice fly by Evan Longoria, but that was the first of 10 straight hitters retired by the reigning American League Cy Young Award winner. After allowing a single in the fourth, Scherzer retired another 13 in a row before he was pulled with a pitch count of 106.

Erik Bedard (4-6) allowed six runs and eight hits with two walks in two innings.

**ANGELS 5, ASTROS 2**  
**ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP)** — David Freese hit a two-run double, Matt Shoemaker



Minnesota Twins pitcher Phil Hughes reacts after giving up a three-run home run to New York Yankees' Carlos Beltran in the fifth inning of a baseball game, Thursday, July 3, 2014, in Minneapolis.

Associated Press

pitched in and out of trouble for six innings, and Los Angeles won the opener of a four-game series.

Shoemaker (6-2) allowed two runs, seven hits and three walks, and worked with runners on base in every inning. The right-hander, who began the season in the bullpen, gave up eight runs and 11 hits in

four innings on Friday in a loss at Kansas City. He had been 5-0 with a 3.00 ERA in his seven previous starts this season.

Shoemaker had seven strikeouts against the Astros, giving him 57 through his first 10 big league starts. That broke the franchise record of 56 set by Bo Belinsky in 1962. □

# Greinke goes 8 strong, Dodgers top Rockies 3-2

**The Associated Press**  
**DENVER (AP)** — Zack Greinke pitched eight solid innings and Juan Uribe hit the go-ahead single in the ninth inning for Los Angeles.

Greinke (11-4) got the win when the Dodgers rallied in the ninth. Matt Kemp worked a leadoff walk off LaTroy Hawkins (2-2), went to second on Scott Van Slyke's groundout and scored when Uribe singled under the glove of second baseman DJ LeMahieu.

Kenley Jansen worked the bottom of the inning to get his NL best 26th save in 29 chances.

Uribe finished with three of the Dodgers' six hits.

Justin Morneau and LeMahieu had two hits each for the Rockies, who have lost four straight and 15 of 17 to move within a half-game



Los Angeles Dodgers' Juan Uribe follows through with his swing after hitting an RBI-single to drive in the go-ahead run against the Colorado Rockies in the ninth inning of the Dodgers' 3-2 victory in a baseball game in Denver, Thursday, July 3, 2014.

of last place in the NL West.

**CARDINALS 7, GIANTS 2**  
**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — Jhonny Peralta hit a two-run homer, Carlos Martinez earned his second win as a starter, and St. Louis beat reeling San Francisco.

Martinez (2-3) also drove

in a run for the Cardinals, who won their second straight after losing three in a row. Martinez allowed a run and five hits in five innings. He walked one and struck out six.

Madison Bumgarner (9-6) fell to 0-3 over his past four

home starts after allowing five runs — four earned — and six hits over five innings.

Bumgarner also drove in a run for the Giants, who have lost 17 of 22 and fell out of first place in the NL West.

**DIAMONDBACKS 10, PIRATES 2**  
**PITTSBURGH (AP)** — David Peralta had three hits, including a two-run homer, and drove in four runs to help Arizona avoid a series sweep.

Arizona scored three runs in the sixth and seven in the ninth.

The Pirates are 0 for 8 in chances to sweep opposing teams this season. They looked primed to get their first sweep as starter Vance Worley retired the first 12 batters he faced and carried a no-hitter into the sixth inning.

Ender Inciarte broke up Worley's no-hit bid with an RBI single with one out in the sixth.

Peralta followed with his third home run of the year which barely cleared the 21-foot-high fence in right field and gave Arizona a 3-2 lead.

**PHILLIES 5, MARLINS 4**  
**MIAMI (AP)** — Ben Revere scored the go-ahead run when Miami second baseman Donovan Solano bobbled a grounder in the ninth, and Philadelphia rallied to snap a six-game losing streak.

Tony Gwynn Jr. led off the ninth with a walk and eventually scored the tying run against Miami closer Steve Cishek (4-4). Revere scored easily when Chase Utley hit a grounder and Solano could only get the out at first. □



# Tour de France gears up for UK start

**JAMEY KEATEN**  
**Associated Press**

**LEEDS, England (AP)** — So your national team is out of the World Cup in Brazil, Wimbledon doesn't seem the same without Serena Williams or Rafael Nadal and your baseball team is slumping.

This weekend, fans of many stripes could join die-hard cycling buffs and tune in to the start of the 101st Tour de France for that much needed sports fix.

Cycling's big event gets going Saturday through bucolic countryside in northern England, where officials have paid for the right to host it, hoping to draw tourists, capture media attention and feed the recent cycling craze among Britons.

It could first require getting over a nagging belief that, after Lance Armstrong's doping exposure, the sport may still be dogged by drugs cheats. Cycling chiefs and experts generally agree that the era of widespread doping is over, but few would claim to know that today's pack is fully clean. Drugs testers will conduct hundreds of blood and urine checks during the race.

Bookmakers' odds foresee a victory either by defending champion Chris Froome, a 29-year-old Kenyan-born Briton



**ABOVE:** A photographer on the back of a motorcycle rides standing up to takes pictures of Britain's Christopher Froome, center, as he rides his teammates during a training. **BELOW:** Spain's Alberto Contador talks to teammates when leaving for a training ride in Leeds, Britain, Friday, July 4, 2014.

Associated Press

who leads Team Sky, or two-time champ Alberto Contador — a 31-year-old Spaniard with Tinkoff-Saxo Bank — to take home the yellow jersey when the race finishes on Paris' Champs-Elysees on July 26.

Few of the 198 riders on the

22 teams stand a realistic chance of winning, based on recent performances, skill sets and team priorities. Most are "domestiques" who race above all to help their team leaders win. Vincenzo Nibali of Italy, plus Spaniards Alejandro

Valverde and Joaquin Rodriguez, stand an outside chance.

Conceding home-road advantage, Contador said Friday that "local hero" Froome remains the favorite. The Briton, who succeeded Sky teammate and compatriot Bradley Wiggins as Tour winner, said: "I don't think many Tour champions get to come back as defending champions and can start in front of their home crowd." Five of the 21 stages end in summit finishes, which usually promise drama as the cream of the climbers rises to the top first. In all, the riders will cover 3,664 kilometers (2,277 miles) of roads in England, France, Belgium and Spain.

Aside from cobblestone treachery in Stage 5, the mountains mostly matter this year. For the first time in 61 years, this Tour has only one long time trial — a race-against-the-clock, where racers set off one-by-one down a starter's ramp. It comes in Stage 20. Contador and Froome are among the best in both climbing and time-trialing. This year marks the second time that the Tour de France is starting in Britain, after a successful time in London in 2007. Local officials use municipal funds to pay for the right to host the race in their cities, hoping for short-term tourism revenues plus

a longer-term return from the international media spotlight.

The Tour's route changes every year. After three stages in England, this 101st edition enters France on Tuesday. The riders will cover many of the same roads their forebears covered since the race was first run in 1903. Among novelties this year: the first-ever Chinese rider in the race, Cheng Ji, and 11 climbs in the eastern Vosges mountains — though long, steep ascents await in the Alps and Pyrenees too.

If turnout on English roads during the 2007 Tour de France is any precedent — when millions lined up two- to three-people deep to watch the pack zip by — expect big crowds again this year.

Saturday's 190.5-kilometer (118-mile) rolling Stage 1 from Leeds to Harrogate is likely to favor sprinters. The Tour's green jersey goes to the best overall sprinter, one of many subplots to the overall title chase which includes pure climbers seeking the polka-dot jersey to be the best man in the mountains.

Many of the Union Jack-waving spectators will want Britain's Mark Cavendish, perhaps the best sprinter of his generation, to get his 26th career Tour stage victory in Harrogate. □

## Gilliland lands pole for Cup race at Daytona

**MARK LONG**  
**AP Sports Writer**

**DAYTONA BEACH, Florida (AP)** — David Gilliland won the pole for the Coke Zero 400 Sprint Cup race at Daytona International Speedway after a rain-shortened qualifying on Friday.

Gilliland's top speed during a hectic, cat-and-mouse qualifying session was 199.322 mph (320 kph). The top 24 drivers in the first knockout qualifying stage were supposed to advance to the next round, but rain prompted NASCAR to cancel the final two sessions.

Reed Sorenson qualified



**David Gilliland walks through the garage area after winning the pole position for the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series auto race at Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Fla., Friday, July 4, 2014.**

Associated Press

second, followed by Landon Cassill, Bobby Labonte and Jimmie Johnson.

Daytona 500 winner Dale Earnhardt Jr. was seventh. He will attempt to become the sixth driver to sweep both annual races at NASCAR's most famous track on Saturday.

It was Gilliland's third Sprint Cup pole and first since landing the top spot for the 2007 Daytona 500. All three of his poles have been at restrictor-plate races, with the first one coming at Talladega in 2006.

"Front Row Motorsports, our strong point is definitely speedway racing," said

Gilliland, who finished third in the 2011 Daytona 500. "It is something that's circled on our calendar from the start of the year. We put a lot of emphasis on it. The restrictor-plate tracks are good equalizers. David Ragan and I both have good enough cars to win, and that is an exciting feeling. It's something we don't have every week."

It was the first time NASCAR's new qualifying rules were used at Daytona, and it produced some hairy moments as groups of cars slowed to a crawl around the 2 1/2-mile (4-kilometer) superspeedway. □



## Review: Evolutionary advances in new smartwatches

ANICK JESDANUN

AP Technology Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — New Android wristwatches from Samsung and LG make a few evolutionary advances, though I won't be rushing out to buy either.

Samsung's Gear Live and LG's G Watch are good products and will appeal to those who like to be among the first to own new gadgets.

The watches serve as pedometers and let you catch up on email, texts and Facebook notifications while your phone is in your pocket or charging in the bedroom. Even with the phone in your hand, you can check messages on the watch and keep playing video on the phone.

Both smartwatches try to keep things simple through voice commands rather than touch. They use Google's Android Wear system, which I reviewed earlier.

Android Wear has a lot of potential but still lacks the functionality of even last year's smartwatches. Your ability to reply is limited, and there's not much you can do yet without a companion phone nearby.

The companion phone must run Android 4.3 or



In this Feb. 24, 2014 file photo, the Samsung Gear 2 smartwatch is displayed at the Mobile World Congress in Spain.

later, which covers about a quarter of the Android devices in use. It doesn't have to be a Samsung or LG phone.

Visit <http://g.co/Wear-Check> from your phone to check compatibility. Don't even bother if you have an iPhone.

Even with its release of the Gear Live, Samsung will continue to sell the Gear 2 line of smartwatches, so I'll start there.

— Samsung's Gear 2 (\$299,

released in April):

I find the Gear 2 most useful for its fitness features. The watch counts the steps you take each day. It estimates distance and calories burned and measures heart rate on your runs, hikes and bike rides. The features are rather basic, so active users might prefer a gadget dedicated to a specific task, such as measuring distance and pace using GPS. But the Gear 2 does offer a good intro-

duction to newcomers.

Shots from the watch's 2-megapixel camera are mediocre, but that beats missing the shot entirely because your better camera is in your pocket or handbag. If you don't need the camera, you can save \$100 with the Gear 2 Neo, which has similar features otherwise. Both have speakerphones for making phone calls.

The Gear 2 line doesn't use Android Wear, but a fledg-

ing system called Tizen. Samsung says that helps extend battery life to two or three days, instead of the single day on the original, Android-based Galaxy Gear. Unlike the Android Wear watches, the Gear 2 and the Gear 2 Neo both require a Samsung phone.

— Samsung's Gear Live (\$199, starts shipping next week):

Out of the box, the Gear Live looks much like the Gear 2. But once you turn it on, it stays on. The watch face doesn't go dark as the one on the Gear 2 does after inactivity.

Unfortunately, the promised battery life is back down to a single day, though actual performance varied depending on use. The best I got was a day and a half on a full charge. In the worst case, about half the charge was gone in just five hours.

The Gear Live doesn't have as many fitness features. You can count steps and measure heart rate, but you can't measure distance or calories with built-in apps.

In addition, there's no camera or speakerphone. To make calls, you need a Bluetooth headset paired to your phone.

Associated Press

## Journal expresses 'concern' over Facebook study

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** —

The scientific journal that published a study by Facebook and two U.S. universities examining people's online mood swings regrets how the social experiment was handled.

The experiment prompted privacy regulators in the U.K. and France to open inquiries into whether Facebook may have violated any laws.

In a note of contrition, the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences concluded that the decision to manipulate the content appearing on the Facebook pages of about 700,000 people without their prior consent

may have violated some principles of academic research.

The journal also pointed out that, as a for-profit company governed by its own terms of service, Facebook had no obligation to adhere to those scientific principles.

"It is nevertheless a matter of concern that the collection of the data by Facebook may have involved practices that were not fully consistent with the principles of obtaining informed consent and allowing participants to opt out," wrote Inder Verma, the Washington, D.C.-based journal's editor in chief.

The unusual "editorial ex-

pression of concern" surfaced Thursday, a day after Facebook Inc. Chief Operating Officer Sheryl Sandberg apologized, acknowledging that the world's largest social network should have done a better job communicating about the experiment.

Facebook allowed researchers to manipulate the content that appeared in the main section, or "news feed," of small fraction of the social network's nearly 1.3 billion users.

The data-scientists conducted the study during one week in January 2012. They were trying to collect evidence to prove their thesis that people's moods



In this June 11, 2014 photo, a man walks past a Facebook sign in an office on the Facebook campus in Menlo Park, Calif.

Associated Press

could spread like an "emotional contagion" depending on what they were reading.

Although their findings were published a month ago, the experiment didn't trigger outrage until the past few days, after blogs and essays in The New York Times and The Atlantic raised red flags about the

ethics of treating people like laboratory rats without their permission.

Facebook's data-use policy says the Menlo Park, California, company can deploy user information for "internal operations, including troubleshooting, data analysis, testing, research and service improvement."



# Markets lackluster on US Independence Day

**LONDON (AP)** — Following gains on Friday in Asia, where investors cheered a strong U.S. jobs report from the previous day, markets in Europe were lackluster as Wall Street remained closed for the Fourth of July holiday. On Thursday, markets were buoyed by news that the U.S. economy generated a greater than expected 288,000 jobs in June. Though that increase in itself prompted some analysts to think the Federal Reserve may start raising interest rates sooner than an-

ticipated, many noted that subdued wages may hold the central bank's hand for a while longer — a potentially positive backdrop for stock markets. Trading volumes were low on Friday, however, due to the U.S. holiday. Many investors in France and Germany likely also kept to the sidelines to turn their attention to the World Cup match between their countries later in the afternoon. "America's celebration of its independence brings with it the usual quiet day in

London, while French and German traders will have been forgiven for long since closing their books and choosing a comfortable spot for a tense start to the weekend," said Will Hedden of IG. Following gains around the world Thursday following the data that saw the Dow Jones index break 17,000 for the first time, Asian shares got a lift Friday. Among the main indexes, the Nikkei 225 average, the benchmark for the Tokyo Stock Exchange,

gained 0.6 percent to finish at 15,437.13 while Hong Kong's Hang Seng added 0.1 percent to 23,546.36. In Europe, the mood was flatter with the FTSE 100 index of leading British shares closing flat at 6,866.05 and Germany's DAX shedding 0.2 percent to 10,009.08. The CAC-40 in France fell 0.5 percent to 4,468.98. The market tone was equally subdued elsewhere with the euro 0.1 percent lower at \$1.3599 and the dollar 0.1 percent down at 102.07 yen. □

## Sharp gains in music streaming as cd sales and downloads tank

**BEN SISARIO**  
 © 2014 New York Times

For the music industry, the good news about this year's sales is not quite enough to make up for all the bad news.

What's good is the rapid growth of streaming media services like Spotify and YouTube, which let their customers listen to millions of songs online, often free. According to data from Nielsen SoundScan that was released on Thursday, listeners in the United States used such audio and video streaming platforms to listen to 70.3 billion songs in the first half of 2014, an increase of 42 percent from the first half of 2013.

But in a pattern that has alarmed music executives, this growth appears to have come at the expense of traditional sales, with downloads now joining CDs as a format in decline. According to Nielsen, 120.9 million albums have been sold so far this year, down 14.9 percent from the first half of 2013. Of those albums, 62.9 million were on CD (down 19.6 percent) and 53.8 million were digital downloads (down 11.6 percent). Download sales — a major growth engine for the music industry since the introduction of Apple's iTunes store in 2003 — began to cool several years ago. But their slip from a format on the rise to one on the decline has come suddenly. Last year, downloads of individual tracks fell for the first time ever, by 6 percent, and in the first half of 2014 they dropped 13 percent, to 593.6 million.

"We're in a period of transition," David Bakula, a senior analyst at Nielsen, said. "Two years ago I don't think anyone would have expected sales numbers to go down this dramatically."

The top album so far this year is Disney's "Frozen" soundtrack, with slightly less than 2.7 million sales since January and about 3 million since it came out in November. □



People walk by an electronic stock board of a securities firm in Tokyo. Following gains on Friday in Asia, where investors cheered a strong U.S. jobs report from the previous day, markets in Europe were lackluster as Wall Street remained closed for the Fourth of July holiday.

(AP Photo/Koji Sasahara)

## SunTrust reaches settlement on mortgage modifications

© 2014 New York Times

Federal prosecutors and SunTrust Banks reached a settlement this week in a criminal investigation into the bank's tardiness in approving mortgage modifications. The bank will pay as much as \$320 million for a combination of consumer relief and housing counseling services. The agreement stems from an investigation by federal prosecutors in Virginia into SunTrust's compliance with the Home Affordable Modification Program, one of several initiatives enacted by the Obama administration to encourage banks to modify loans for struggling homeowners after

the financial crisis. Federal prosecutors and investigators from several other federal government agencies found that SunTrust, which is based in Atlanta, not only acted slowly in processing borrower applications for mortgage modifications but also made misrepresentations to homeowners. Most of the money being paid by the bank under the settlement will go toward a fund to compensate borrowers who were shortchanged by SunTrust. "SunTrust has done the right thing by agreeing to this novel package of restitution, remediation and prevention, which represents a significant victory not

only for SunTrust customers, but also for Americans who will receive counseling and other assistance when faced with financial challenges," Timothy J. Heaphy, the U.S. attorney for the Western District of Virginia, said in a statement. The deal will require SunTrust to provide at least \$179 million, and as much as \$274 million, for consumer restitution. The bank will also provide \$20 million to a fund that will distribute money to organizations that provide housing counseling services. SunTrust also will make a \$10 million payment to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, two government-sponsored mortgage

finance companies. Finally, SunTrust will forfeit \$16 million to the Treasury Department. SunTrust said in a news release that it would take a \$204 million pretax charge in the second quarter to cover the cost of the agreement. The bank said it had acknowledged weaknesses in its administration of the loan program and has put in place procedures to correct the deficiencies. The government said thousands of the 26,000 borrowers who applied to SunTrust for loan modifications under the federal program might be entitled to relief under the restitution fund. □



## DIY Credit Report Repair

Susan Salisbury

© 2014 Cox Newspapers

**WEST PALM BEACH, Fla.** -- Do you need to improve your not-so-stellar credit report? Don't pay a company to do it for you. You can do it yourself for free, the Federal Trade Commission says.

Companies that claim they can remove bankruptcies, judgments, liens and bad loans from your credit file forever are mostly likely a scam, the FTC says.

FTC attorneys say they've never seen a legitimate credit repair operation making those claims.

The FTC's advice comes in the wake of a settlement it reached with RMNC Credit Services Inc., one of the nation's largest credit repair companies. The Texas-based company owned by Doug and Julie Parker, a husband-and-wife team, agreed to settle charges that it lied to credit bureaus about information in people's credit reports and illegally collected fees before performing any services, the FTC says.

The firm charged consumers more than \$40 million in illegal advance fees for its services, the FTC says. It sent more than a million phony letters to credit bureaus. The letters purporting to be from consumers were signed by RMNC employees using the consumers' names. They often used fictitious reasons for disputing negative items, such as "not my account," or "creditor agreed to remove account." A federal court order imposes a \$2.35 million civil penalty against the defendants, which will be partially suspended based on an inability to pay, after they pay a total of \$400,000 in two installments.

The firm violated federal law by charging up to \$2,000 in up-front fees for a six-month program to improve consumers' credit ratings and by making numerous false statements to credit bureaus disputing the accuracy of negative information in consumers' credit reports, the FTC says.

Here's the FTC's advice about how to proceed on your own:

Step 1: Tell the credit reporting company, in writing, what information you think is inaccurate.

Step 2: Tell the creditor or other information provider, in writing, that you dispute an item. Include copies (NOT originals) of documents that support your position. Many providers specify an address for disputes. If the provider reports the item to a consumer reporting company, it must include a notice of your dispute. And if the information is found to be inaccurate, the provider may not report it again.

By law you're entitled to a free credit report if a company takes "adverse action" against you, like denying your application for credit, insurance or employment. You have to ask for your report within 60 days of receiving notice.

Each of the nationwide credit reporting companies -- Equifax, Experian and TransUnion -- is required to provide you with a free copy of your credit report once every 12 months, if you ask for it. To order, visit [annualcreditreport.com](http://annualcreditreport.com), or call 1-877-322-8228. You may order reports from each of the three credit reporting companies at the same time, or you can stagger your requests throughout the year.

It doesn't cost anything to dispute mistakes or outdated items on your credit report. Both the credit reporting company and the information provider (the person, company, or organization that provides information about you to a credit reporting company) are responsible for correcting inaccurate or incomplete information in your report.

## Why more startups are sharing ideas without seeking any legal protection

EILENE ZIMMERMAN

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In 2011, Andy Moeck was looking for investors for Moeo, a Los Angeles startup he was building that makes mobile gaming apps based on real-time sporting events. A friend introduced Moeck to a partner at the Silicon Valley venture capital firm Kleiner Perkins Caufield Byers, and at their first meeting, Moeck asked the partner to sign a nondisclosure agreement.

Such agreements, known

not unusual for entrepreneurs to request and potential investors to sign non-disclosure agreements. But today the agreements are largely considered a thing of the past. In fact, some investors say they walk away from a founder who even suggests signing one.

This cultural shift, which began in the late 1990s and accelerated during the early 2000s, began in Silicon Valley, said Victor W. Hwang, chief executive of T2 Venture Creation, an

morally defensible position - no NDAs - the coin of the realm."

Even if a startup manages to get an agreement signed, it can be tough to enforce, said Aaron I. Messing, a lawyer with Olender-Feldman in Summit, New Jersey.

"It's very hard to prove that you kept information confidential, and it was only disclosed under an NDA," said Messing, who represents both founders and investors. "And it can be



**Andy Moeck, whose startup Moeo is developing mobile gaming apps based on real-time sports events, in Long Beach, Calif. Moeck went ahead with a pitch to Kleiner Perkins Caufield Byers even though they refused to sign a non-disclosure agreement -- a once-routine measure that more and more venture capital firms now balk at.**

(J. Emilio Flores/The New York Times)

as NDAs, are designed to prevent an idea or technology from being stolen and copied. Moeck was especially concerned because the venture capital firm was already backing Zynga, another gaming company.

"We knew they didn't have a mobile or sports strategy," he said of Zynga. "I didn't want to pitch Kleiner about what we were doing and have them go back and say to Zynga, 'This is how Moeo does it.'"

But the Kleiner Perkins investor refused to sign an NDA, leaving Moeck to decide whether to proceed with his pitch.

It is a common quandary, and not just in Silicon Valley. Ten years ago, it was

investment firm in Portola Valley, California.

"One of the most advantageous things an entrepreneur can do is talk about their company to anyone who will listen," Hwang said.

Not everyone agrees.

Thom Ruhe, vice president of entrepreneurship at the Kauffman Foundation, said the declining use of NDAs "is certainly not in the interests of entrepreneurs. It favors the VC." Although it is rare that an investor steals an idea, Ruhe said, it does happen.

"But in the skewed echo chamber of the Valley, and the sycophantical networks that aspire to be just like them," he said, "they've made the easier and less

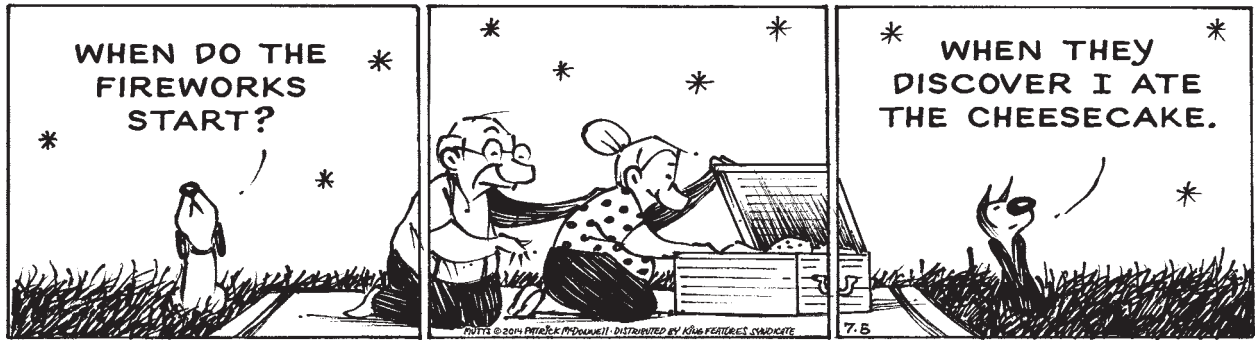
expensive."

Investors say signing such agreements is impractical for them, too. "VC firms and angels are looking at so many more deals today, that they could freeze themselves out of a given area by signing an NDA with one person," said Peter C. Wendell, a faculty member at Stanford Graduate School of Business and the founder and a managing director of Sierra Ventures, a tech-oriented venture firm in Silicon Valley.

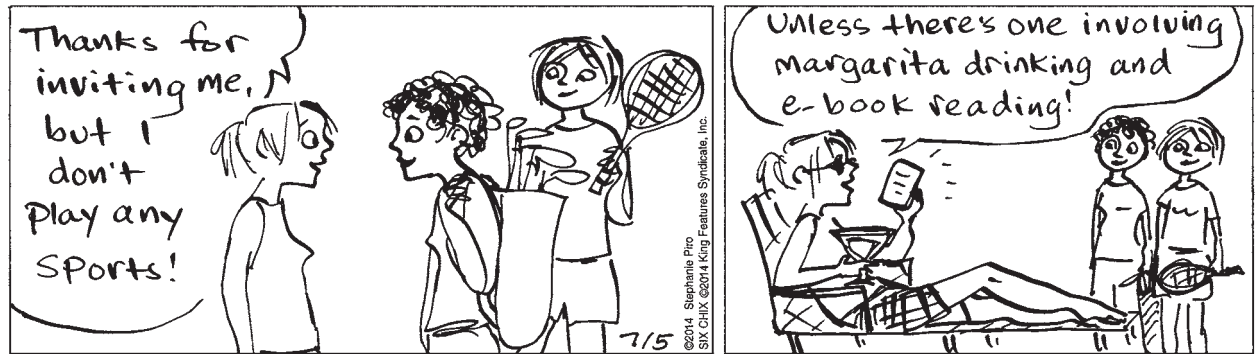
Each time an NDA is signed, it stalls the conversation for a week because of the legal work involved, Hwang said, and over time, that can give a competitor the opportunity to enter a market first.



Mutts



6 Chix



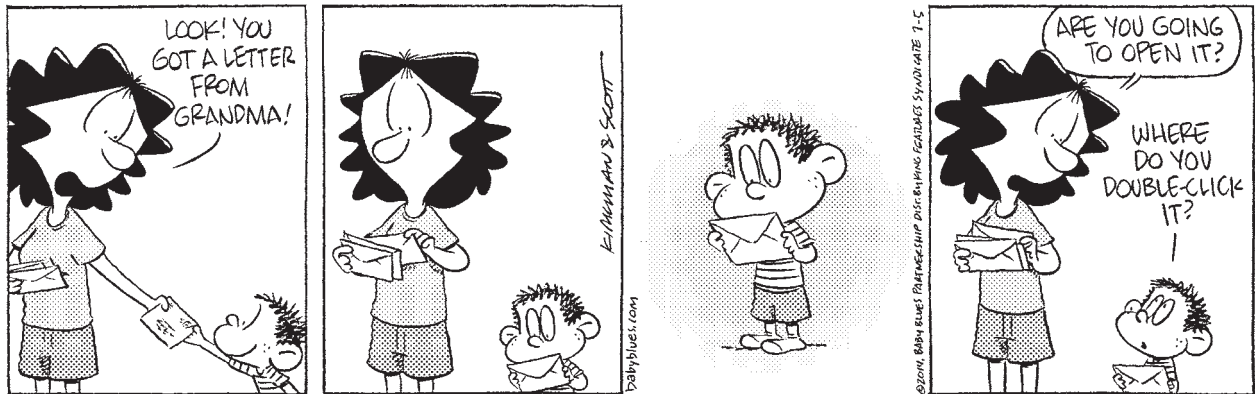
Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

		5		7			9	
	4							1
8				6		7		
			5		4			
1		3				2		8
			1		3			
		7		1				9
2							5	
	6			3		4		

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 7/05

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

7	8	5	1	6	9	2	3	4
3	2	9	4	7	8	1	6	5
6	1	4	2	5	3	7	9	8
2	7	1	9	3	4	5	8	6
4	3	8	5	1	6	9	7	2
9	5	6	7	8	2	4	1	3
1	6	7	3	2	5	8	4	9
8	4	2	6	9	1	3	5	7
5	9	3	8	4	7	6	2	1

ACROSS

- Blood analysis sites
- Uncomfortable indoor breeze
- \_\_\_ of March; bad day for Julius Caesar
- Farmland unit
- Grieving wife
- Mlle. in Madrid
- In a \_\_\_; miffed
- Dwelling
- Boring routines
- Wobbles
- Bangs up
- Tiny folklore fellow
- Tea variety
- \_\_\_ plugs; ignition starters
- Standard score on a golf hole
- Camel's smaller cousin
- Strong urges
- Tic-\_\_\_toe
- \_\_\_ up; formed twosomes
- Henpeck
- More fortunate
- June honoree
- Spotted wildcat
- Go wrong
- Bridge
- crosser's fee
- Stall for time
- Consumed
- Brusque
- Bundles of hay
- Split \_\_\_ soup
- Diligent pupil
- Large farms
- \_\_\_ away; erode
- Passenger
- Writer Victor \_\_\_
- Tool with a thin curved blade
- 14 \_\_\_ gold
- Frozen waffle
- One's equal
- In a furtive way
- Sit for a spell

DOWN

- Final
- Teen's affliction
- Soft cheese

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15						16		
17				18						19		
20				21					22	23		
			24					25				
26	27	28				29			30	31	32	33
34						35			36			
37						38			39			40
41			42					43			44	
45								46			47	
			48					49			50	
51	52	53						54			55	56
57											58	
59								60			61	
62								63			64	
65								66			67	

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

7/5/14

Friday's Puzzle Solved

VOW	ABYSS	IDDO
ADAM	SLOPE	NOON
NOVA	SUGAR	WORE
RECLINING	ARMS	
HOST	EAR	
ACCEPT	TOANDFRO	
MOATS	TAWNY	LAW
ACNE	RESET	RUIN
SKA	MELTS	BOISE
SYLLABLE	WOODED	
IDO	HOOF	
PICK	UNDERMINE	
ACRE	NOUNS	NERD
TEAL	DANCE	GAGA
EDGY	SHEEN	ROY

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7/5/14

- |                             |                   |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| 38 Faithful                 | 51 Exchange       |
| 39 Wrath                    | 52 Relinquish     |
| 42 One who does manual work | 53 Mistiness      |
| 44 Professor                | 54 Authentic      |
| 46 Antenna                  | 55 Enormous       |
| 47 Four and six             | 56 Hard-boiled    |
| 49 Songbirds                | 57 Hearth residue |
| 50 Shindig                  | 60 Parched        |



## Immigrants

Continued from page 6

"We didn't ask for this problem - it was just dumped at our doorstep," said Mayor Alan Long, who has lived here most of his life and told residents he planned to send a "fat bill" to President Barack Obama. "This is a nationwide problem, and little Murrieta has taken the lead."

A generation ago, Murrieta was not much more than a rural outpost, but in the past decade the population has exploded to more than 100,000, with suburban developments taking over large plots of scrub brush. For the most part, residents were attracted to the promise of a quieter life and housing that was much less expensive than in the coastal cities where they once lived.

The recent tensions have exposed a deep divide in the city. Although Latinos make up more than 25 percent of the population and have opened up several small businesses as the area has grown, Murrieta has not been as trans-

formed by immigration as many other communities in Southern California have. The city's motto calls Murrieta "the future of Southern California." Its official song, which was created for the city's 21st anniversary, is called "Gem of the Valley" and boasts that "she's a safe place, where we can live, laugh, learn and play." Many residents say they came here to escape the kind of crime and urban problems they now fear the immigrants could bring. During Wednesday night's meeting, dozens of residents vented at the Obama administration for what they saw as a failure to secure the borders. And they vowed to continue to fight back, promising to show up at the local Border Patrol station every time they know a bus of immigrants is scheduled to arrive. Dozens of pro-immigrant residents wearing Mexican soccer jerseys also showed up at the meeting Wednesday but mostly sat in silence. Many more waited outside, having arrived too late to be let into the auditorium, which quickly filled to capacity. □

# Classifieds



### Marriott Aruba Surf

#### Club

GOLD Season  
Oceanside \$9900  
Oceanview \$9k  
Oceanfront \$17k  
3 BEDRM OV \$17k  
PLATINUM Season  
Oceanview \$16k  
Oceanside \$17500  
Oceanfront \$27,500  
3 BEDRM OV \$27k  
Plat. Plus Holiday 51  
OV \$46k  
Plat. Plus NY 52 OV  
\$49k

### Marriott Aruba Ocean

#### club

GOLD Season  
2B Ocean view \$9k  
2B Oceanfront \$14500  
1B Oceanfront \$8500  
PLATINUM Season  
2B oceanview \$18500  
2B Oceanfront \$29k  
1B Oceanview \$11500  
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### DIVI WEEK PHOENIX

wk 27, 7/5 to 12  
ocean front studio Rm 804, all  
amenities 4150\$ and  
**Divi Dutch Village wk 27**  
7/5 to 7/12, ground floor unit 13,  
king bed queen sleeper. Steps  
to pool and ocean 3150\$  
e-mail [rmwjmwa@aol.com](mailto:rmwjmwa@aol.com) or  
US 508 651 0016

202091

### TIMESHARE FOR SALE

**Divi Dutch Village**  
2 br, 2 bath sleeps 6, wk 26,  
6/28 to 7/5 Rms 96-1 and 96-2  
lock off 1 br, floor 3 Studio  
steps to ocean and pool 4950\$  
e-mail [rmwjmwa@aol.com](mailto:rmwjmwa@aol.com) or  
US 508 651 0016

202091

### TIMESHARE FOR SALE

**Aruba Beach Club**  
week 26, 6/28 to 7/5 ground  
floor unit 128, superior studio,  
excellent ocean views, steps to  
ocean and pool all amenities  
3250\$  
e-mail [rmwjmwa@aol.com](mailto:rmwjmwa@aol.com) or  
US 508 651 0016

202091

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Palm Beach #5, In front of Subway

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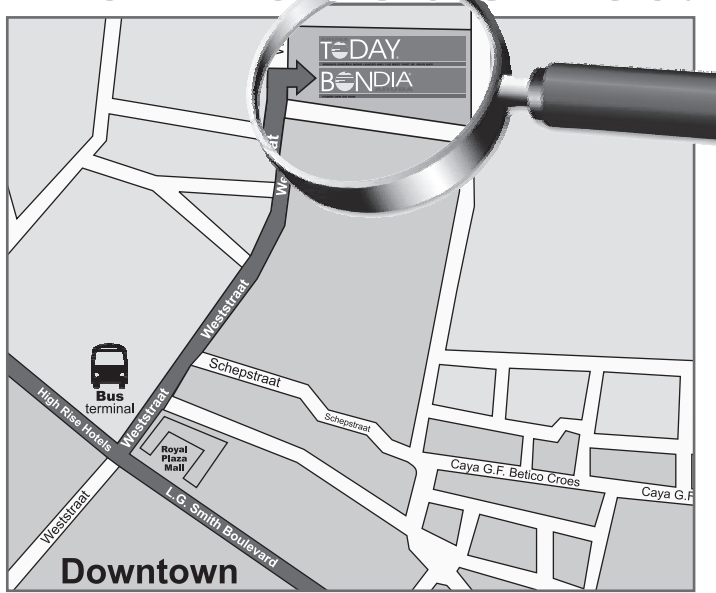
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## How to reach us!





# Young, active war wounded pushing medical science

By JULIE WATSON

Associated Press

**SAN DIEGO (AP)** - The blood is not the most jarring part of the photograph taken shortly after the bomb blew off Marine Gunnery Sgt. Brian Meyer's leg and hand.

It's his smile.

The bomb technician had asked a team member to take the picture. He knew his defiance in the face of death would keep his comrades going and ease the torment caused by what they had witnessed.

His attitude set the tone for the long journey the double amputee is taking along with nearly 2,000 troops who lost one or more limbs from combat injuries in Iraq and Afghanistan.

It's also pushing military medicine to find better ways to accommodate such a large population of young, severely disabled combat veterans who want to maintain an active lifestyle. Many wear out their prosthetic limbs in a matter of months doing everything from mountain climbing to running marathons.

With survival rates reaching historic highs during the two wars, the Naval Health Research Center is launching a major, six-year study on wounded warriors to track their quality of life and better understand the road to recovery.

So far, 1,500 people have signed up for the Wounded Warrior Recovery Project study. The Navy aims to recruit 10,000.

About 50,000 military personnel have been injured in the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, with 16,000 hurt so severely that they



In this photo taken on May 23, 2014, retired Marine Gunnery Sgt. Brian Meyer, center, gets laser treatment from Navy Cmdr. Peter Shumaker, right, at the Naval Medical Center in San Diego.

Associated Press

likely would not have survived previous conflicts.

Doctors say a positive attitude is key to recovery, so the study will also examine mental resilience and why some troops have it and others don't. It will rely on Web-based, telephone and mailed surveys conducted every six months about mobility, ability to function and social activity. Researchers will also analyze military databases detailing clinical encounters with each service member injured while deployed.

The study aims to provide one of the broadest reviews yet of how post 9-11 veterans with a variety of combat injuries are coping and enjoying life, and how much their quality of life impacts their long-term care.

Meyer is not yet part of the

study but intends to participate. His case was featured in the New England Journal of Medicine in May to demonstrate the success of battlefield trauma care over the past decade.

The retired Marine has benefited from a host of new medical strategies used by the military, including laser treatments.

Cmdr. Peter Shumaker, chief of dermatology at Naval Medical Center San Diego, helped pioneer the use of an ablative laser - commonly used to smooth wrinkled or acne-scarred skin - to ease Meyer's scar tissue, dramatically improving the range of motion in his fingers, among other things.

"It's a privilege to work with soldiers and Marines, like Brian, because they're young and motivated and healthy and they can go farther than we ever thought," Shumaker said. "They don't want to just walk, they want to do things that their colleagues are doing, their friends are doing."

Meyer was hospitalized for a month after the 2011 bomb blast in Afghanistan. He lost his right leg above the knee, and his right hand above the wrist. Only his pinky and ring finger remained intact on his left

hand.

After multiple surgeries, he was outfitted for prosthetics and learned to walk again. But Meyer, 29 at the time, wanted full independence. He turned down offers to install wheelchair ramps in his home. He debated before accepting a handicap parking permit. He did not want to avoid the struggle to reintegrate. He wanted to go anywhere.

"I focus on what I have left, not what I lost," Meyer said. His prosthetic arm has a flashlight so at night he can see where he plants his prosthetic foot. His prosthetic arm has the knobs and battery pack positioned to one side so he can shoot a bow and arrow.

Thanks to the laser treatments on his scar tissue, he can now hold a toothbrush, write with a pen, dial his phone, and pull the trigger of a hunting rifle. Laser treatments also removed a sore, allowing him to withstand his prosthetic leg for 18 hours a day.

Shumaker and Dr. Chad Hivnor, who recently retired from Lackland Air Force Base, helped pioneer the method. Hivnor also discovered botulinum toxin A injections decrease perspiration where the prosthetic limb attaches, helping stop

it from slipping off while the person is exercising or in hot climates.

The findings were recently presented to the American Academy of Dermatology to promote the treatment for severely scarred people in the general population.

"These are not special, scar lasers or special, wounded warrior lasers," Shumaker said. "We've taken these techniques that are primarily used for cosmetic purposes and altered them a bit to apply to trauma rehabilitation."

Such unconventional treatments make a big difference in daily life, veterans and their doctors say. One soldier's scar tissue has softened so he can grasp his daughter's hand; another can now type.

A week after a recent treatment, Meyers rode on his motorcycle through a shopping district in Murrieta, 60 miles northeast of San Diego. His pinky and ring finger operated the throttle that has been put on the left side because he only has a left wrist. It has a side car that can carry another amputee, wheelchair or his dog.

Meyer and two others have started the nonprofit organization, Warfighter Made, which modified his motorcycle. It also customizes sports cars, off-road vehicles and other transportation for veterans, who can join in the work.

"What we want is for a guy in the coolest car to drive into a handicap spot and have people be like, 'What's this guy doing?' Then they see him get out with his prosthetic legs," said Meyer, whose prosthetic leg sports a sticker of Bill Murray and the word "Laugh."

Meyer works for the Injured Marines Semper Fi Fund, counseling fellow combat veterans. He loves the photograph taken after he was injured because "it's the exact opposite of what somebody expects you to do. So when I show it to people and they are inspired by it, instead of being shocked, I know they get it." □



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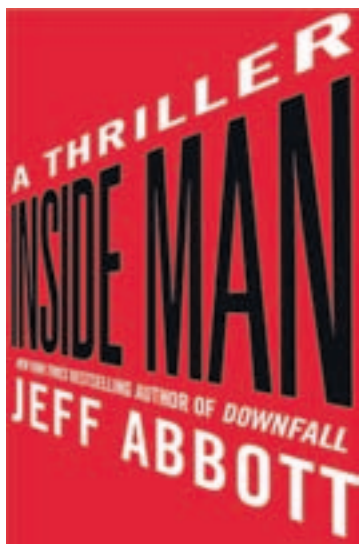
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This book cover image released by Grand Central Publishing shows "Inside Man," by Jeff Abbott.

Associated Press

## Jeff Abbott's 'Inside Man' doesn't disappoint

JEFF AYERS

Associated Press

"Inside Man," the fourth novel by Jeff Abbott to feature bar owner and ex-CIA agent Sam Capra, continues one of the best ongoing series in the thriller genre.

Readers will be hooked from the start when a friend of Sam's — who doesn't know about his spy past — asks for a favor. Steve occasionally takes security positions, and he hopes Sam will help him protect a young woman by becoming an inside man. Before Sam can learn more, Steve is shot and killed in front of the bar.

Sam learns the woman Steve was trying to protect is the daughter of a powerful tycoon with potentially shady dealings. She agrees to let him pretend to be her boyfriend, and soon he has access to her possibly criminal family of treacherous brothers and sisters, and a father who might be going senile, taking his empire down with him. Sam doesn't know whom he can trust, and with no access to his usual safety net, has to tread carefully.

"Inside Man" jumps into the action right away, and the last 100 pages are downright terrifying.

JOHN DeFORE

The Hollywood Reporter

LOS ANGELES (AP) —

A serial-killer mystery in which the culprit turns out to be one of Satan's minions, Scott Derrickson's "Deliver Us From Evil" adapts the detective genre to an exorcism tale that is very serious about the prospect of demonic possession. Though based on claims made by real-life NYPD officer-turned-paranormal investigator Ralph Sarchie (played here by Eric Bana), the picture is stolen by a fictional character — a composite religious figure played with a predictable level of smolder by "Carlos" star Edgar Ramirez.

More aesthetically coherent if less frightening than the director's 2012 hit "Sinister," the pic has a shot at surpassing that outing commercially by virtue of its appeal to devout Catholics.

That audience will find "Evil" very respectful of their faith, though its nods to religion are genre-appropriate and never preachy enough to alienate the average horror fan. Sarchie, a cop who covers the South Bronx with partner Butler (Joel McHale), is proud of an internal "radar" that steers him away from mundane radio calls and toward the juicy cases. But an incident in which a deranged mother threw



This image released by Sony Pictures shows Edgar Ramirez, left, and Eric Bana in a scene from Screen Gems' "Deliver Us From Evil."

Associated Press

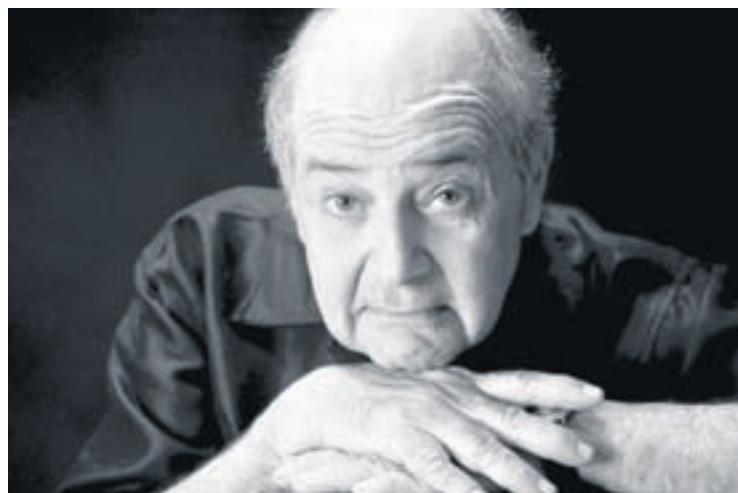
her toddler into the Bronx Zoo's lion pit is juicier than usual, with a mysterious, blood-stained bystander disrupting the investigation before vanishing. Still, Sarchie is ready to write the mother off as a garden-variety psycho even when a Jesuit priest, Ramirez's Mendoza, shows up to insist on a more complicated explanation.

Only after other crimes prove to share both tangible connections (tracing to three Marines who had a disturbing encounter during the Iraq war) and supernatural overtones does Sarchie admit there may

be something to this chain-smoking, whiskey-drinking priest's claim. Maybe, the lapsed-Catholic cop starts to worry, the man they're hunting really is possessed. Enjoyably, this particular case isn't limited to one spirit-controlled victim terrorizing his family and friends. "Poltergeist-y" aftereffects haunt the places and people he has visited — even Sarchie, who is plagued by shock-cut hallucinations and whose house has become a very scary place for his young daughter. (Olivia Munn, playing Sarchie's wife, tries to comfort the poor girl, but the film

ratchets up her bump-in-the-night torment.)

The investigation yields some appreciably icky encounters with putrefying corpses and deranged prisoners, which is good considering the sometimes flimsy cop-movie stuff that surrounds the scares. Bulkied-up McHale, who acquits himself well in action scenes, gets the kind of jadedly quippy dialogue one can easily imagine him parodying on "Community"; Munn's part could have been scripted by cut-and-pasting any of a hundred other neglected-police-woman's-wife characters.



In this undated photo provided by Merle Frimark Associates, Broadway and television casting director Barry Moss poses for a photograph.

Associated Press

MARK KENNEDY

AP Drama Writer

NEW YORK (AP) —

Broadway and television cast-

ing director Barry Moss, who helped cast nearly 90 Broadway and touring productions, including

## Broadway and TV casting director Barry Moss dies

the 1980 revival of "West Side Story," "Nine," "Torch Song Trilogy" and "The Who's Tommy," has died. He was 74.

Moss died June 17 of congestive heart failure in Manhattan, said his partner Bob Kale.

Among his casting credits are the 1995 revival of "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying," "Titanic," "Woman of the Year," "My One and Only," "Black and Blue" and "Sweeney Todd." He also was the casting director for "The Cosby Show" and

was a founding member of The Casting Society of America.

Moss was a child actor who studied theatre arts at UCLA. He worked for the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences before moving to New York to begin a career as a director.

He joined the Mort Schwartz Agency, where he was put in charge of the theatrical department. He soon met Julie Hughes, with whom he founded Hughes Moss Casting in 1981.





This Sept. 18, 2013 file photo shows Ketch Secor of The Old Crow Medicine Show performing during the Americana Music Honors and Awards Show in Nashville, Tenn.

Associated Press

## Old Crow Medicine Show teams with Bob Dylan again

**KRISTIN M. HALL**  
Associated Press

**NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)** — For years, Ketch Secor of Old Crow Medicine Show has been thanking Bob Dylan from afar for “Wagon Wheel,” the multiplatinum hit based on an unfinished Dylan song. The Americana band made it a fan favorite through their live shows over the past decade, and then Darius Rucker turned a cover into a No. 1 country song.

The reclusive master songwriter finally responded — in a way Secor never expected.

The lead singer of Old Crow, whose new album “Remedy” came out Tuesday, likens his relationship with Dylan to a kid dropping letters in a bottle and tossing them in the ocean seeking a pen pal on another continent.

“The bottle washed ashore on the beach in Malibu and Bob scrawled something into the bottle and he tossed it back into the Pacific and it made its way to Music City,” Secor said.

That response was another scrap of a song and a question: Would Secor want to take a crack at it? The snippet comes from the same Mexico writing sessions as the “Wagon

Wheel” song fragment Secor would later embellish, originally recorded for Dylan’s 1973 soundtrack for “Pat Garrett & Billy The Kid.” “I was working with about 26 seconds in which there’s a lot of giggling in the background and it just sounds like a pretty high time down in Monterey, or Durango, or wherever they are making this Western movie,” Secor said.

From that came “Sweet Amarillo,” a waltz about a cowboy’s search for his lover. After sending Dylan’s management a demo, they received a short suggestion to move the chorus up and switch out the harmonica for a fiddle.

“The reason it sounds so catchy is because Bob said play the fiddle and get a good hook in your music,” Secor said. “That’s what a good catchy song does. I think Bob is rooting for it, too.”

Dylan has remained silent on this new song, but Secor said he doesn’t need “Sweet Amarillo” to have the same success as “Wagon Wheel.”

“To me, the success is the fruition of Bob hearing the song and sending another one,” Secor said. “It’s already done everything. It made a circle.” □

## With ‘Tammy,’ ‘Freak Show,’ Bates keeps roaring



In this Dec. 8, 2013 file photo, actress Kathy Bates attends the 2013 Kennedy Center Honors at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, in Washington.

Associated Press

**MIKE CIDONI LENNOX**  
AP Entertainment Writer  
**BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)**

— Kathy Bates calls herself “an old lion.”

The actress says she also plays one in the big-screen comedy “Tammy,” in theaters this weekend. Bates portrays Lenore, a successful entrepreneur who figuratively slaps sense into the film’s lovable loser of a titular character (Melissa McCarthy).

The 66-year-old “Misery” Oscar winner tells us more:

AP: I must admit I’m surprised to find you in this movie. You’ve done a few light comedies, such as Adam Sandler’s “The Waterboy.” But we’re used to seeing you in dramas.

Bates: I’d heard they (the creative team of McCarthy and husband Ben Falcone) wanted me for a part. I didn’t know what part. I told my agent, “I will play a giraffe with green spots, whatever they say.” (Laughs.)

AP: What was the appeal of McCarthy?

Bates: Even when she gets outrageous, when she gets on the most ridiculous jaunts and puts a bag on her head and all of that, you go with it, because it’s

real. It’s grounded in reality. You almost believe, “Hey! I’d do that, too.”

AP: As Tammy and her grandmother (Susan Sarandon) careen out of control on their road trip, and in life, Lenore sets them both straight. She’s a role model. Bates: I think of Lenore as an old lion. It’s taken her many years to create her business, to have a life for herself and (partner) Susanne (Sandra Oh). They met in college and I think they came out when it was very difficult for lesbians to be accepted.

AP: (The gay-cinema historian) Vito Russo would have loved that Lenore is incidentally gay. Her sexuality isn’t the point of the character.

Bates: What I love about the way we are portrayed in the film is that Susanne and Lenore are a normal, healthy couple, which says, “You can’t legislate who you love.”

AP: What are the ties that bind you to Lenore?

Bates: I am an old lion, too. I’m nipping at the cubs quite a bit these days. When I get a young director who wants to do all these fancy shots and use all these wide lenses from a low angle, he’ll get nipped.

(Laughs.) I have spent 50 years of my life learning about this craft. And I’m about to turn it over to the kids that are coming up, which I will do, willingly.

AP: But you’re by no means retiring. You couldn’t be much busier.

Bates: I can’t believe it. Let’s face it. When (her TV series) “Harry’s Law” got canceled and right after that I found out I had breast cancer and I had a double mastectomy that summer, I was pretty low. And I felt like I’d been kicked to the curb. And I didn’t know if I would ever work again. And then, a year later, along came Melissa and (“American Horror Story” producer) Ryan Murphy. I’m just grateful for all that.

A few months ago, I made the choice not to have (breast) reconstruction, because it occurred to me, “I don’t want to go back to bed. I don’t want to be on (the painkiller) Oxycodone for two months. I’m having too much fun.”

AP: Ryan cast you in “American Horror Story: Coven,” and has said that you’ll appear in some capacity in the upcoming “American Horror Story: Freak Show.”

Bates: I know I’m part of the “Freak Show.” □



## My Head's Exploding



MAUREEN DOWD

© 2014 New York Times

WASHINGTON - W. cut off Dick Cheney.

Why can't we?

Who would have thought that Iraq imploding would give the mountebanks who tricked us into war a chance to rear their heads and seek rehabilitation - somehow grabbing onto the hellish spiral as proof that they were right in their original wrongness? But, then, they did always create their own reality spun from grandiosity.

They are shamefully showcased on cable TV, which has so much airtime to fill that it doesn't care if it's hot air. They are once more pounding on the fear button and warning that America needs to attack or risk being emasculated by Middle Eastern terrorists. Doesn't Vice know that most Americans, especially the Bushes, cannot stand his demented scaremongering anymore? Even Fox News anchors are now pressing him with skeptical questions about the war.

Asked by Fox's Elisabeth Hasselbeck if he thought we "could be on track for something worse than 9/11," Cheney replied, "I think that's a possibility."

He's always busy predicting another 9/11. Too bad he and W. ignored warnings about the first one. Cheney is not only responsible for Iraq melting down and Afghanistan being mucked up. He can also claim credit for so exhausting John Wayne's America that a skeptic on military intervention, Rand Paul, is a credible candidate for the Republican nomination.

That causes the man without a pulse to pulsate with bile. Shooting Paul in the face, Cheney told Fox: "The Republican Party traditionally has had the reputation as the go-to guys with respect to national security, and we want to reclaim that mantle for the party."

Darth Vader is campaigning for validation with his cowboy hat and "Sith apprentice," as Jon Stewart calls Liz Cheney. Liz acted in her failed Wyoming Senate bid as Dick did with the globe: swaggering and pre-emptorally blowing off allies and foes. So she has her own fences to mend if she wants a career in politics.

Their idea of a charm offensive is to growl and spit and create something called The Alliance for a Strong America, a group demanding a more chesty foreign policy in a statement redolent of the manifesto that neocons and other Republicans waved back during the Clinton administration. Speaking to Fox News' Megyn Kelly and to conservative radio

host Chris Salcedo, Liz blamed President Barack Obama for the chaos wrought by her father and W., basely claiming that he was intentionally trying to weaken America.

When Bill Clinton said on NBC's "Meet the Press" that it was "unseemly" for Dick Cheney to attack the Obama administration "for not doing an adequate job of cleaning up the mess that he made," the venomous Liz tweeted "@billclinton calls Dick Cheney 'unseemly.' Well, I guess he would know." (Not much of a denial by Liz.)

The creepy comeback scenario is playing out with the Cheneys, Paul Wolfowitz (who absurdly rejects the moniker of "architect,") Bill Kristol, Paul Bremer, Robert Kagan (who prefers the term "liberal interventionist" to "neocon") and Elliott Abrams (who actually had the chutzpah to write a Politico Magazine piece about Obama titled "The Man Who Broke the Middle East").

As a cherry on top of our \$3 trillion disaster, there on the front page of The Times on Tuesday was Ahmad Chalabi, the neocons' cagey partner in fakery and initial choice to replace Saddam Hussein.

"He took millions of dollars from the CIA, founded and was accused of defrauding the second-biggest bank in Jordan and sold the Bush administration a bill of goods on weapons of mass destruction in Iraq," Rod Nordland wrote.

Yet now Chalabi is a serious candidate for prime minister.

In his book about Chalabi, "Arrows of the Night," Richard Bonin, a "60 Minutes" producer, wrote this about the secular Shiite who managed to manipulate Washington into getting rid of Saddam, thinking he could return and take his place: "There has never been a foreigner more crucially involved in a decision by the United States to go to war than Chalabi."

When Bonin asked Chalabi who used whom, in his unholy alliance with the neocons who later scorned him, he answered: "It was a commonality of interest, a convergence of conceptions about the future."

Just when you thought our wreck in Iraq could not get any more sulfurous, The Times' James Risen revealed that a State Department inquiry into the out-of-control Blackwater protection brigade was stifled by U.S. diplomats in Baghdad and then abandoned after Blackwater's top manager threatened "that he could kill" the government's chief investigator and "no one could or would do anything about it as we were in Iraq."

Asked on HuffPost Live on Tuesday whether Cheney was immoral or amoral, Lawrence Wilkerson, the regretful former aide to Colin Powell, replied amoral.

"Immorality is something that can be ferreted out, checked and balanced," he said.

Amorality is an altogether different affair, especially when you're exploiting the politics of fear in order to carry out state purposes, which is what Dick Cheney's forte is."

At least the neocons finally found the WMD - warped mouthy discourse. □



## Why the Fate of Ukraine Matters



THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

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You can't make this up. The Guardian reported on Sunday that Ukrainians have crowdfunded the first "people's drone" to help their army stem infiltration by Russian-supported rebels in Ukraine's eastern provinces that border Russia.

"Last week, Ukraine's crowdfunding site 'The People's Project' said that it had received enough donations to fund a drone," The Guardian reported. "The organizers had originally hoped to buy a state-of-the-art Israeli drone - for \$165,000 - or a cheaper American one costing \$120,000. In the end, however, they managed to build the drone for just \$35,000. A designer and other volunteers built the airframe, with a Ukrainian military institute chipping in technical equipment."

Good for them. The fate of Ukraine matters - as much, if not more, as Syria and Iraq. We don't have to search for "moderates" in Ukraine. Millions there have already both fought for and voted to align their country with the free markets and free people of the European Union.

In Brussels on Friday, the newly elected Ukrainian president, Petro Poroshenko, signed a trade pact with the European Union that will lower tariffs on Ukrainian exports to the 28-nation EU market in return for Ukraine implementing anti-corruption, transparency and quality-control reforms designed to bring its economy up to Western stan-

dards. It was the same deal that Poroshenko's predecessor, Viktor Yanukovich, refused to sign last November under pressure from President Vladimir Putin of Russia. That set off the revolution in Kiev's main square that eventually toppled Yanukovich and ignited a rebellion by Putin-directed separatists in eastern Ukraine. Which is why only hours after the deal was signed, Russia's deputy foreign minister, Grigory Karasin, was quoted by the Interfax news agency as ominously warning that the EU-Ukraine accord would have "serious consequences."

Really? Think about that. One nation threatening another for signing a trade pact in hopes of elevating the incomes of its people, which have badly lagged those of its neighbors, like Poland, who joined the European Union after the collapse of the Soviet Union. I get that the Russians would not want Ukraine to join NATO, a defense alliance still aimed at containing Russian power. I opposed NATO's expansion at the end of the Cold War and would not support it now.

But a trade deal that doesn't even lead to automatic EU membership? Is this how Russia maintains its power status? By keeping its neighbors poor and energy-starved?

I had argued in May that Putin had "blinked" when, in the wake of Western sanctions and the threat of more, he pulled back troops from Ukraine's border where he had massed them - hoping first to block Poroshenko's election and then the signing of the EU deal. But maybe Putin just winked. While he did not invade, he has shoveled arms and proxies into eastern Ukraine to foment separatism in Russian-speaking areas. Today, Poroshenko - fed up with Putin's Goebbels-quality lying - moved forces to regain control of eastern Ukraine and his country's right to choose its future. Putin is clearly afraid of more sanctions. It is time the U.S. and EU imposed them.

In denying Ukrainians the right to

choose their own economic and political path, Putin shows how dumb and clever he is at the same time. He is dumb in believing that, in this connected world of newly empowered citizens, he can enjoy the same "sphere of influence" that Russia had in Central Europe in the days of the czars. Sorry. If a leader wants to have a sphere of influence today - in this age of "people of influence" - he either has to earn it by how he behaves or take it all by force. In Ukraine, Putin is incapable of the former and - for now - doesn't dare do the latter. The czars never had to deal with people of influence who could crowdfund their own drone.

But Putin is also clever. Or as Russian analyst Vladimir Frolov put it in The Moscow Times: "President Vladimir Putin may fail to secure his goal of derailing Ukraine's association agreement with the EU, but at home he has already cashed in on his Ukrainian political strategy by completely resetting Russia's national conversation."

His principal achievement has been to eliminate any meaningful debate on alternative futures for Russia. Less than a year ago, there was still political space to advance democratic alternatives to Putin's system."

However, the Russian seizure of Crimea and its proxy war in Ukraine, added Frolov, "transformed the national conversation from a healthy debate on Putin's presidential performance into a toxic discussion on war and Russia's enemies."

Moscow's propaganda has successfully painted Ukraine's popular uprising against state capture by a corrupt clique as a "U.S.-sponsored fascist coup." Therefore, if Putin "is fighting Nazis in Ukraine, then by extension anyone who disagrees with him could be a Nazi collaborator and an enemy of Russia."

This closes the political space for all alternative visions for Russia except as a revisionist empire hostile to the West." □



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